MYSTERIOUS GIRLFRIEND X

2

RIICHI UESHIBA

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VERTICAL COMICS

MYSTERIOUS GIRLFRIEND X

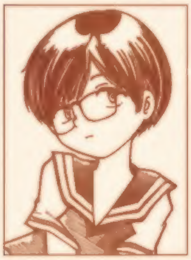
2

RIICHI UESHIBA

MYSTERIOUS GIRLFRIEND X

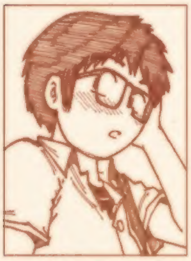
Characters

Ayuko Oka (17)



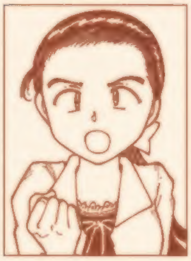
At 4'8", she's very small, but her figure is well-developed and quite gorgeous. Tsubaki spotted her kissing Ueno in the classroom after school, but she's not too bothered by it. Like Tsubaki, she is responsive to Urabe's drool.

Ueno (17)



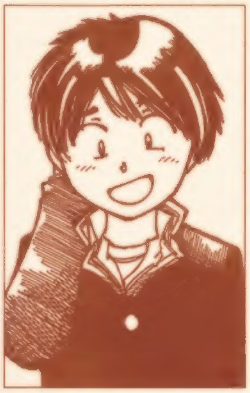
Tsubaki's best friend.
He's been going out with their classmate, Oka, since they were sophomores. Ueno's fond way of talking about Oka frequently influences Tsubaki's ideas about relationships.

Youko Tsubaki (24)



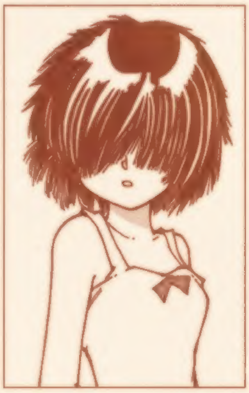
Akira's sister, seven years his senior. She handles all the housework in place of their mother, who died when they were young. Akira is highly indebted to her.

Akira Tsubaki (17)



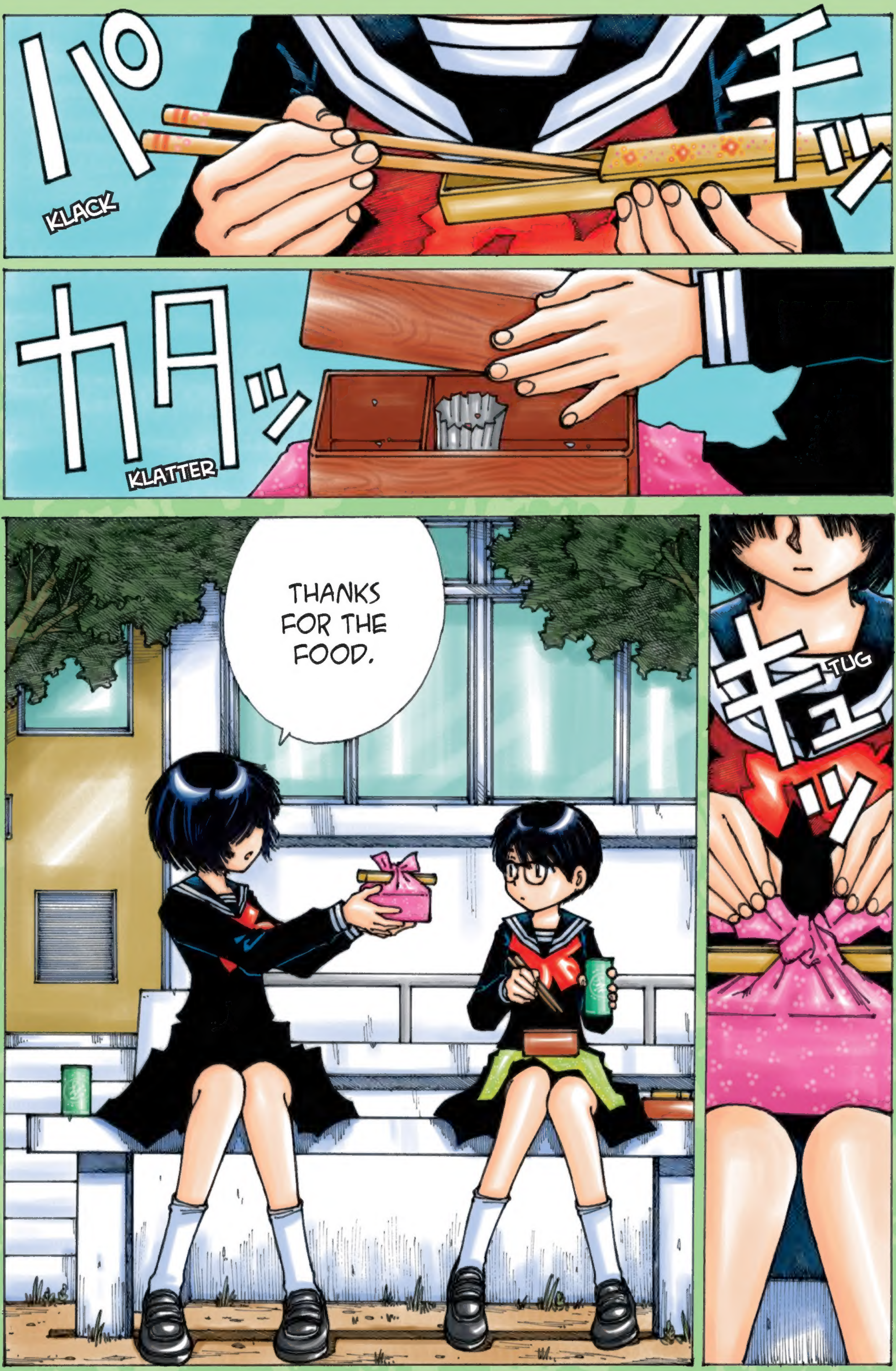
The protagonist of the story. His bizarre relationship with Urabe began after he licked her drool one day. He is as interested in girls as any boy his age, but Urabe takes the lead in their relationship and Tsubaki can't seem to initiate any progress between them.

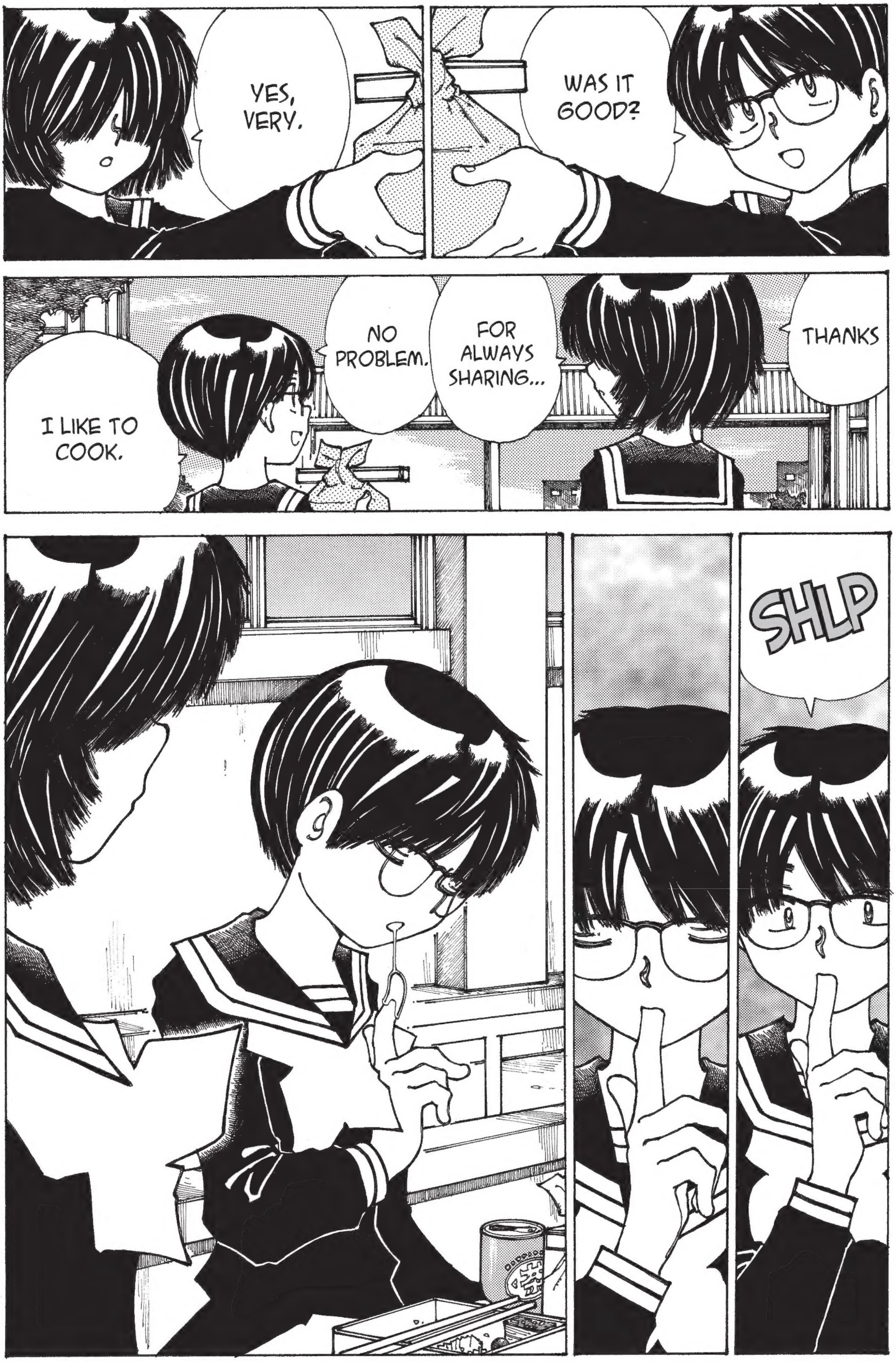
Mikoto Urabe (17)

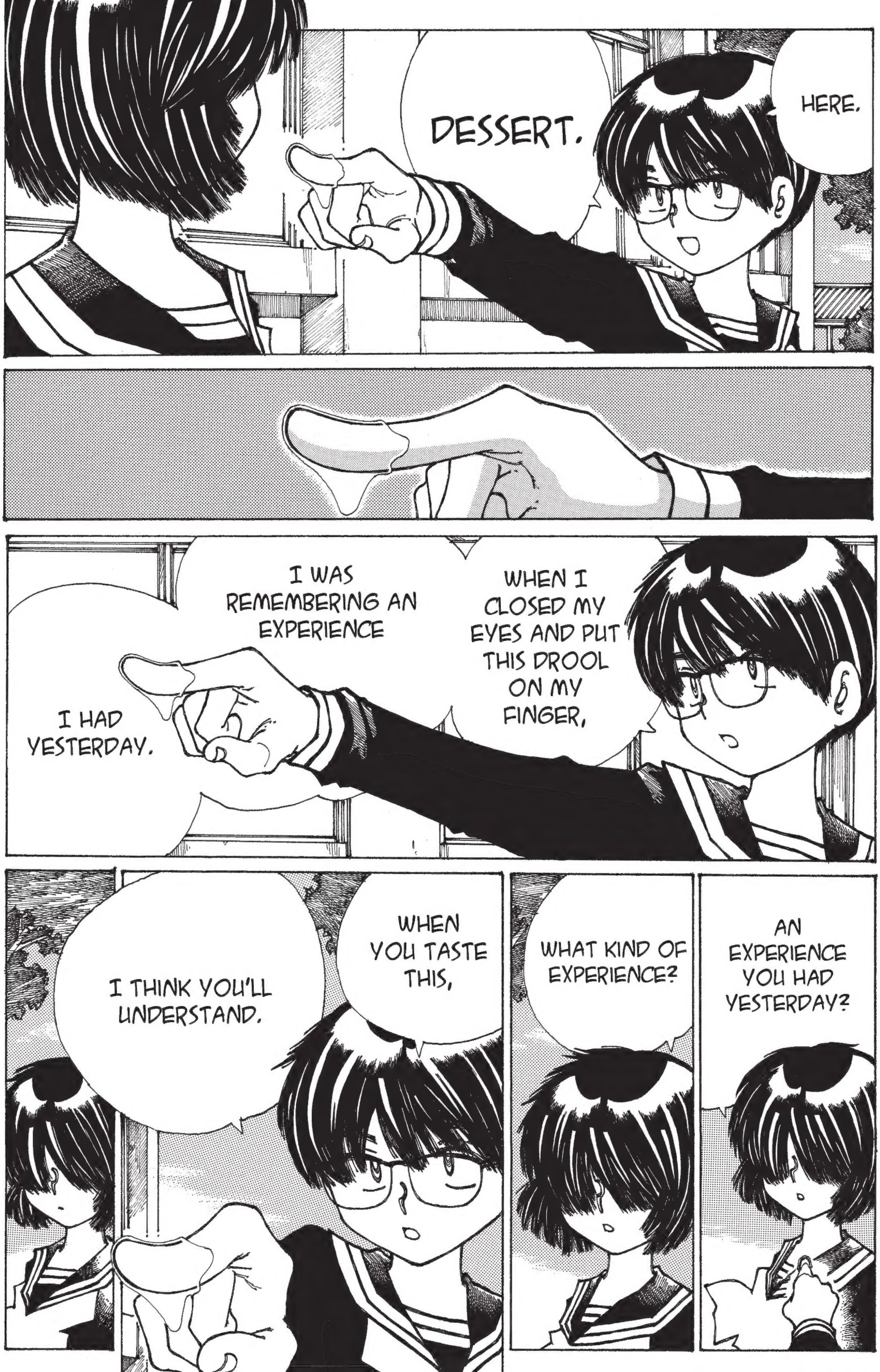


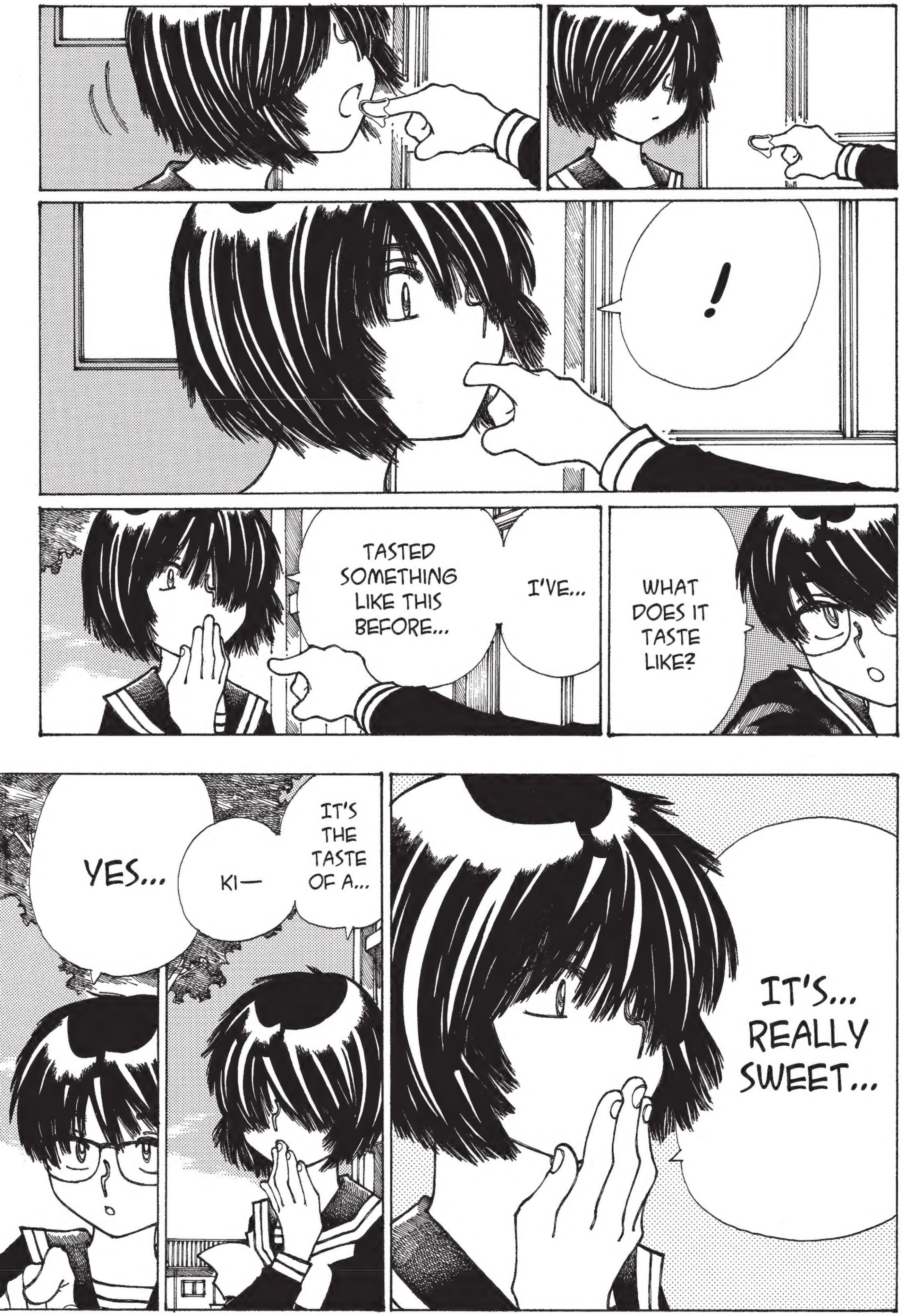
A transfer student who joined Tsubaki's class. She can convey her own feelings through her drool, as well as pick up on Tsubaki's feelings through his. She's antisocial and everything she says and does is mysterious, but her ideas about love are very pure. Her hobby is using scissors, which she can use to cut up anything.

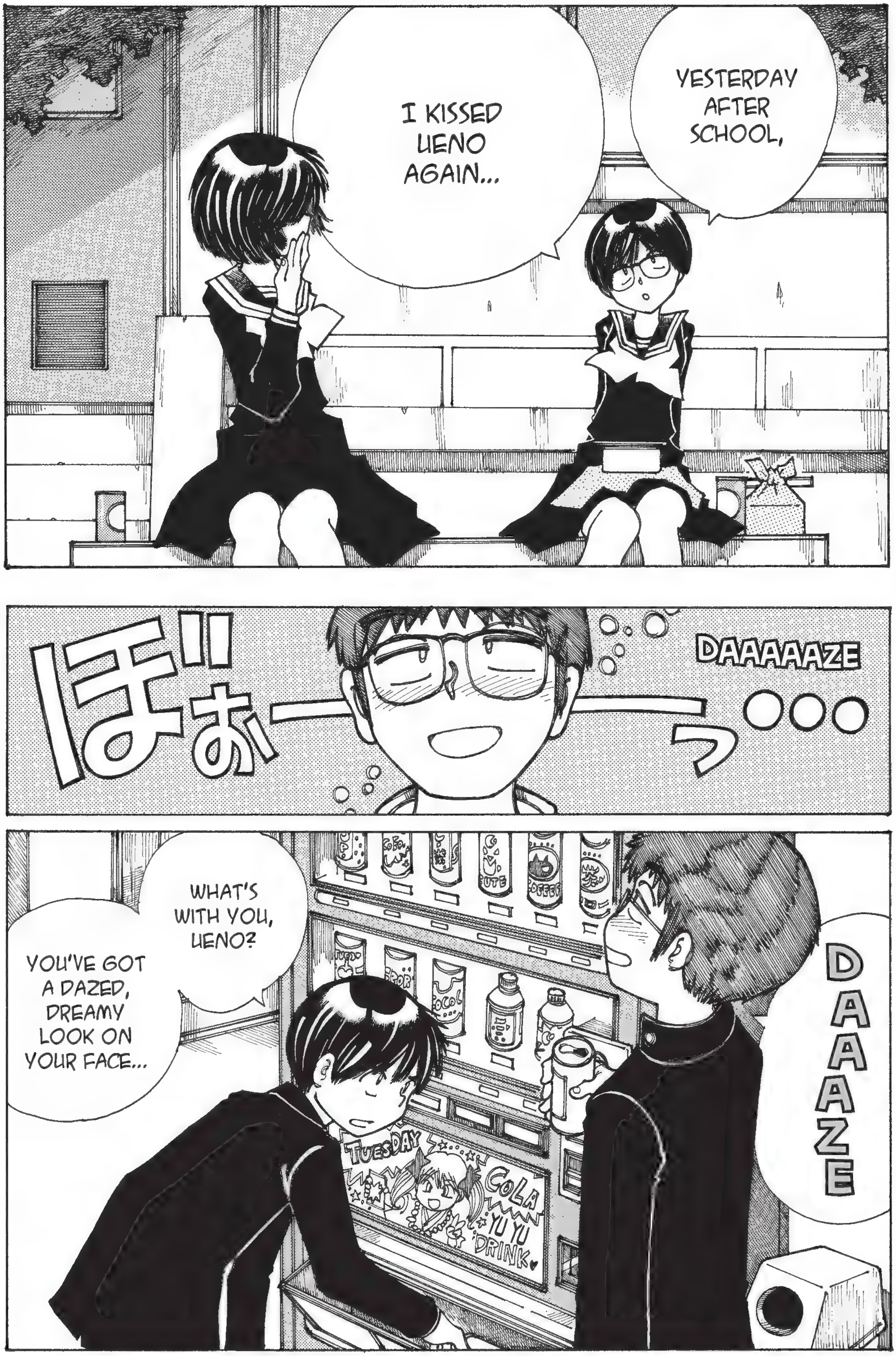
CHAPTER 13: MYSTERIOUS DESSERT

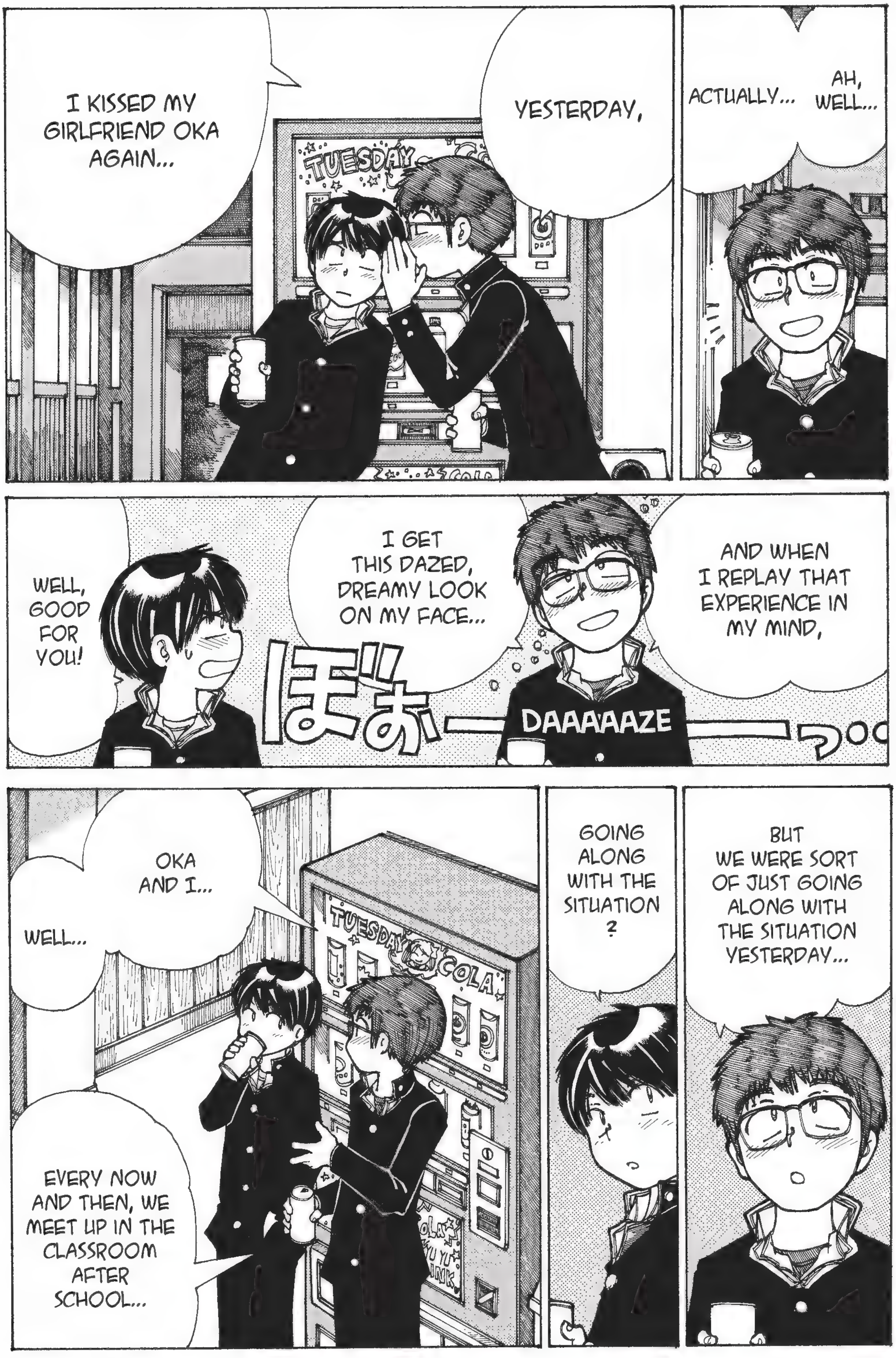

パチッ
KLACK
カタッ
KLATTER
キュッ
TUG
THANKS FOR THE FOOD.

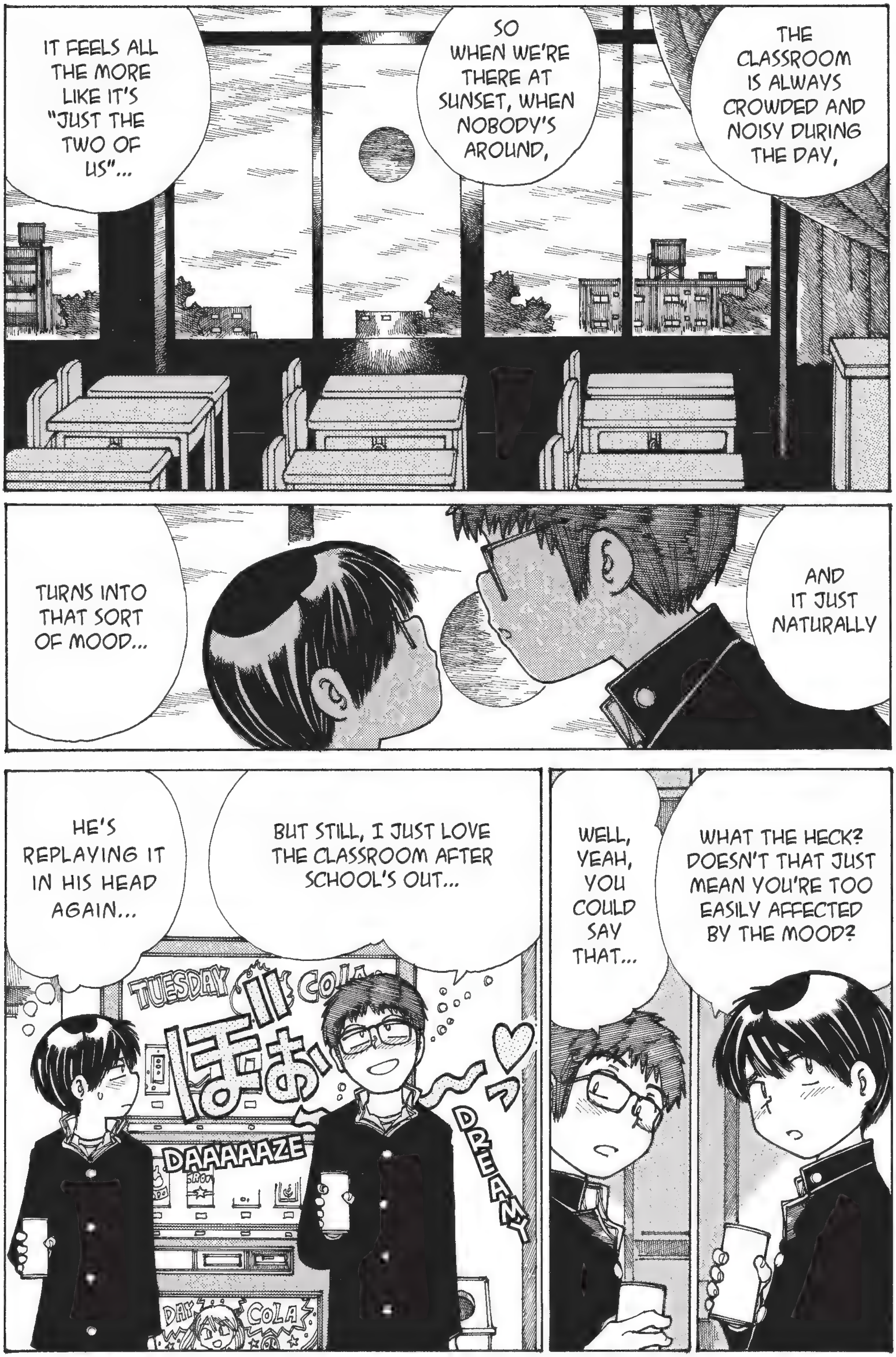

WAS IT GOOD?
YES, VERY.
THANKS
FOR ALWAYS SHARING...
NO PROBLEM.
I LIKE TO COOK.
SHLP

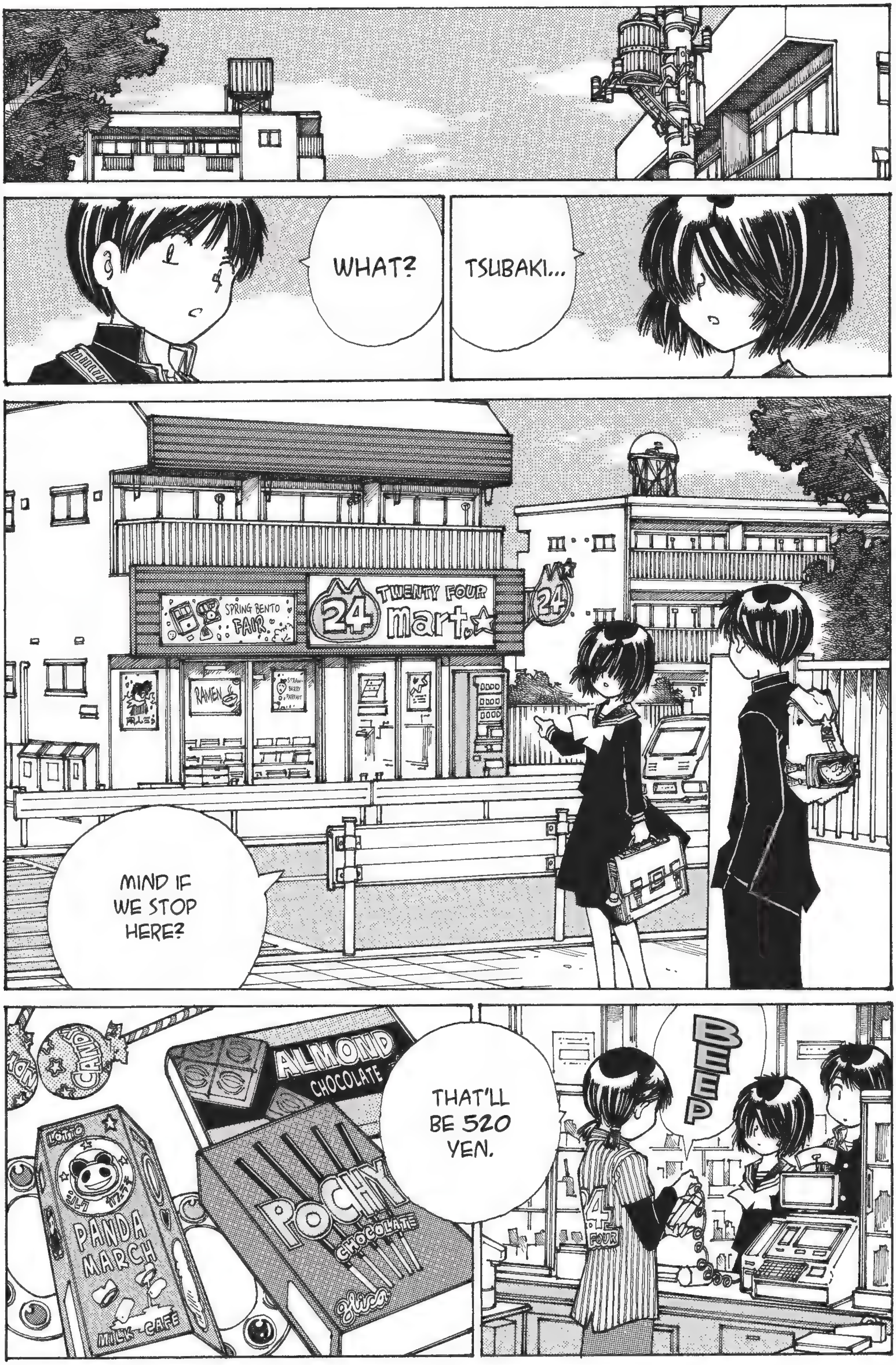

HERE.
DESSERT.
WHEN I CLOSED MY EYES AND PUT THIS DROOL ON MY FINGER,
I WAS REMEMBERING AN EXPERIENCE
I HAD YESTERDAY.
AN EXPERIENCE YOU HAD YESTERDAY?
WHAT KIND OF EXPERIENCE?
WHEN YOU TASTE THIS,
I THINK YOU'LL UNDERSTAND.

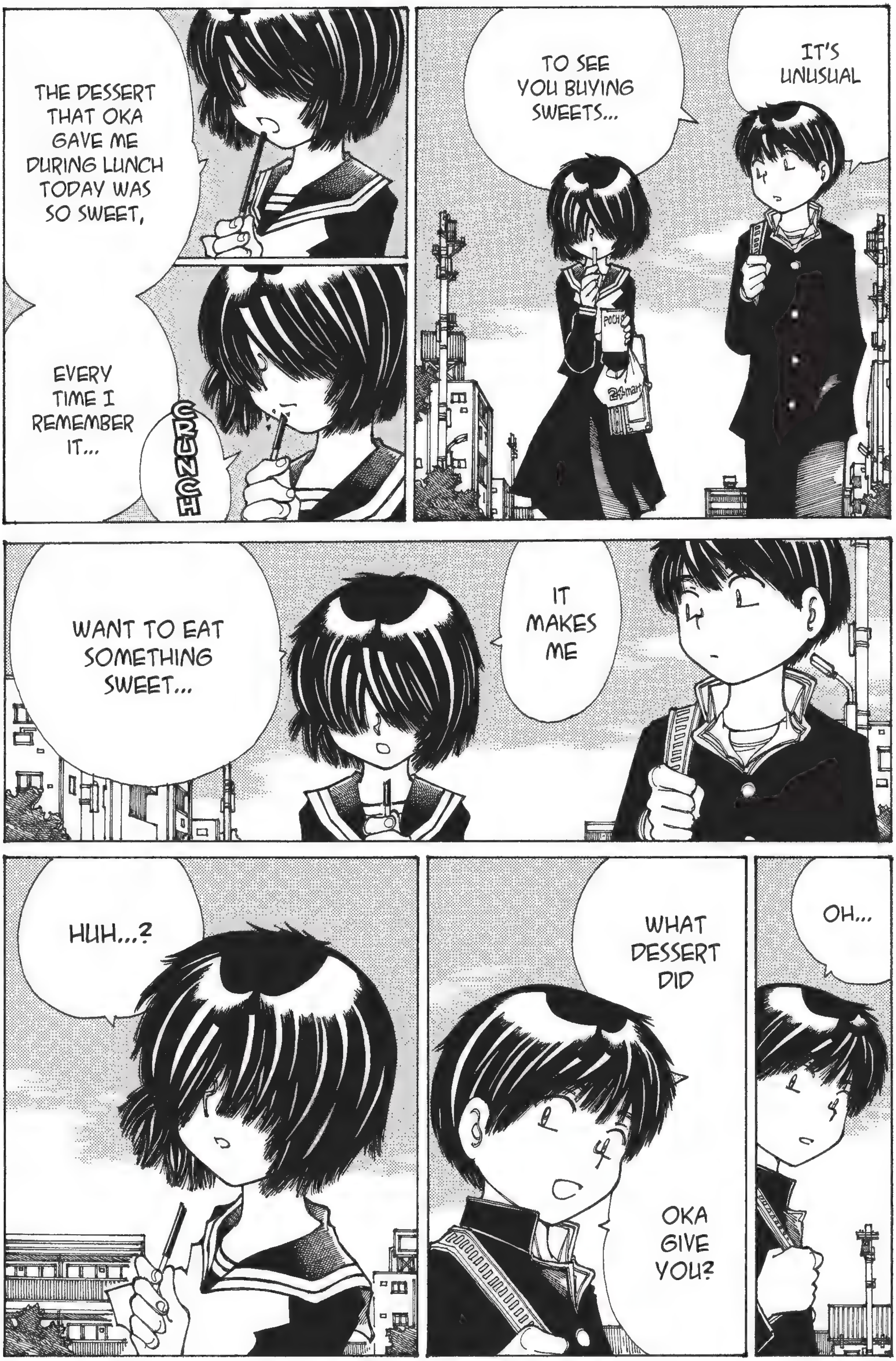

!
I'VE...
TASTED SOMETHING LIKE THIS BEFORE...
WHAT DOES IT TASTE LIKE?
IT'S THE TASTE OF A...
KI—
YES...
IT'S... REALLY SWEET...

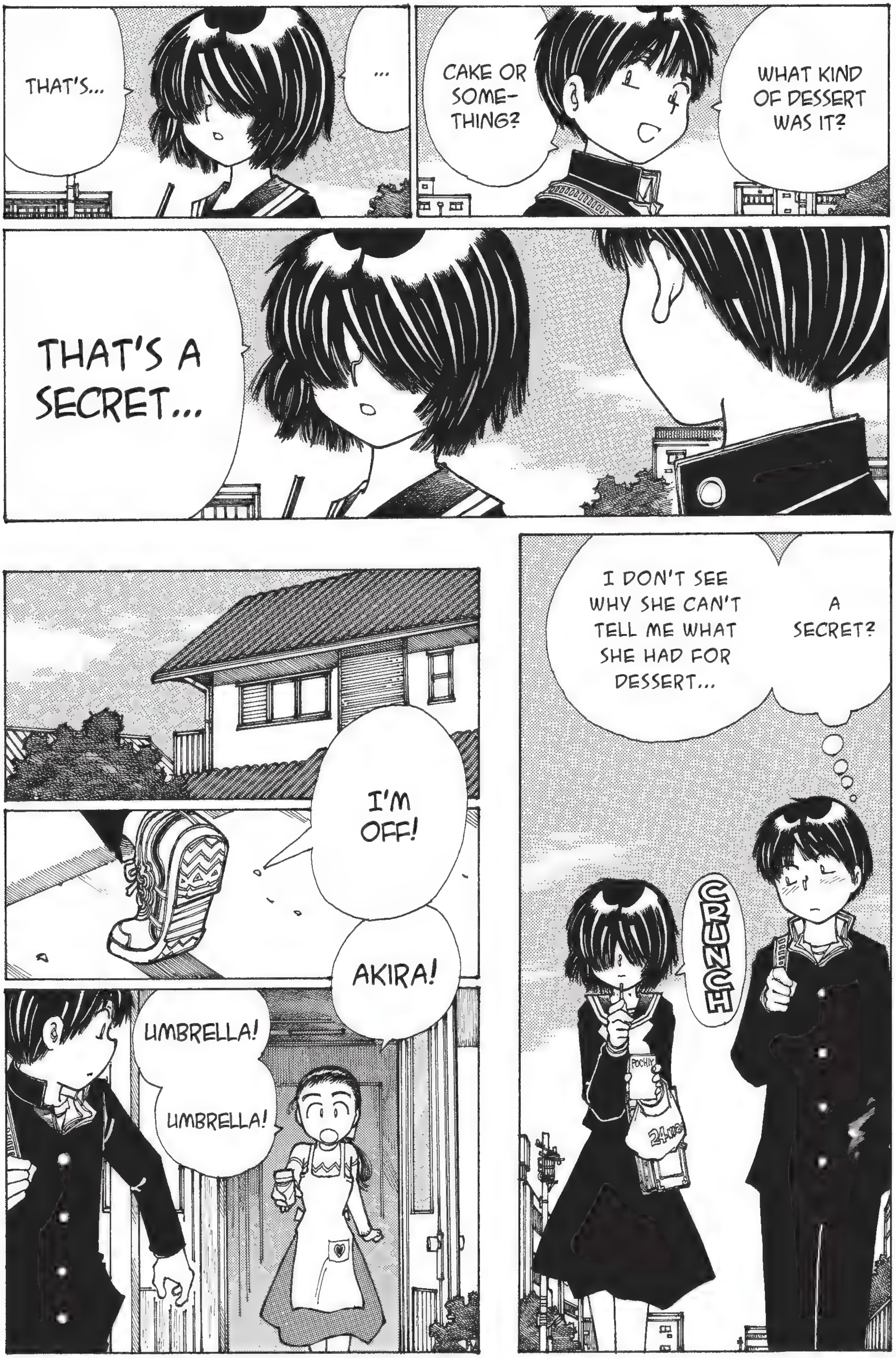

YESTERDAY AFTER SCHOOL,
I KISSED UENO AGAIN...
DAAAAAZE
ぼぉーーっ・・・
DAAAAZE
WHAT'S WITH YOU, UENO?
YOU'VE GOT A DAZED, DREAMY LOOK ON YOUR FACE...
COFFEE
CUTE
TUESDAY
COLA
YU YU DRINK

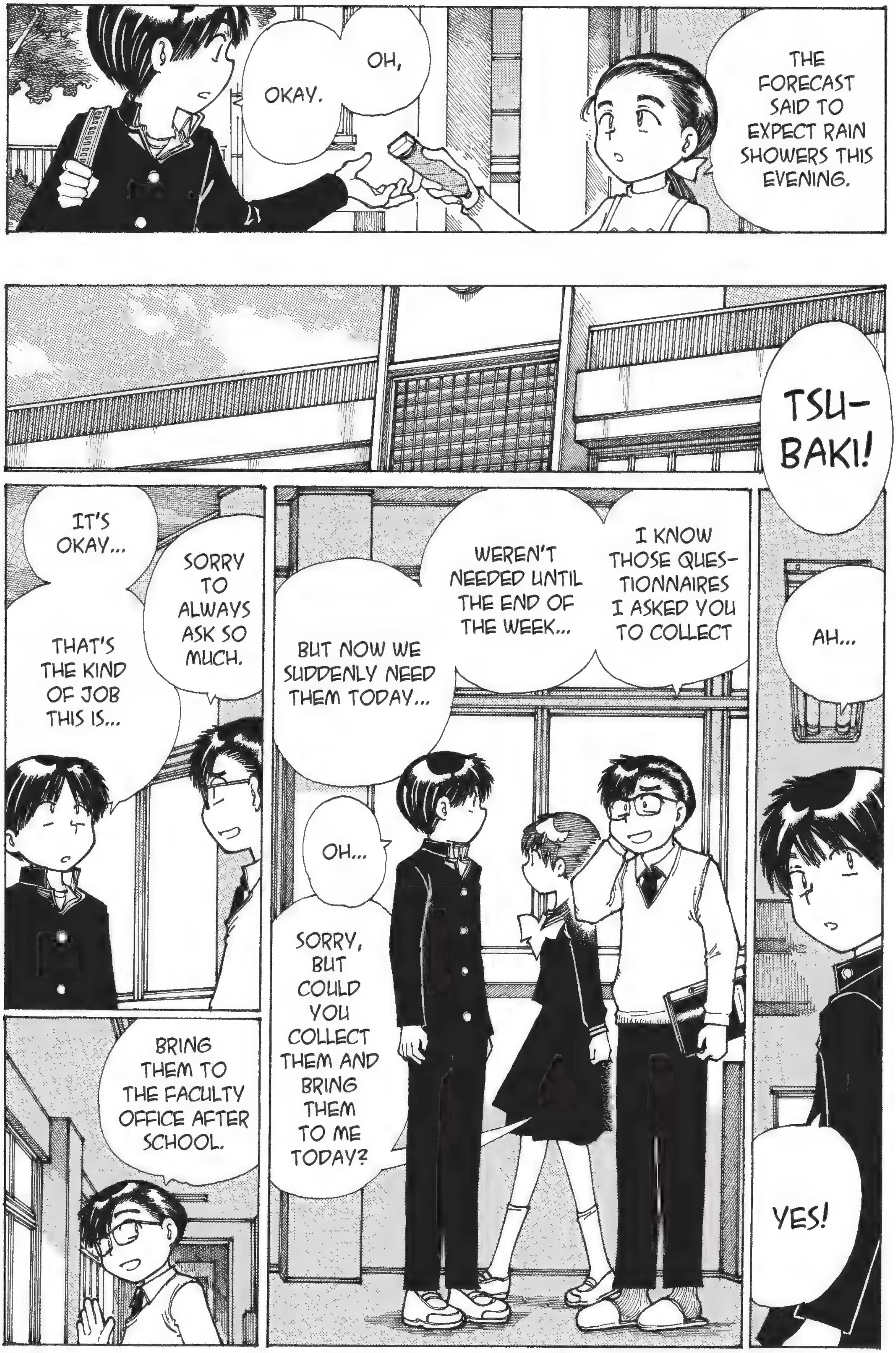

AH, WELL...
ACTUALLY...
YESTERDAY,
I KISSED MY GIRLFRIEND OKA AGAIN...
TUESDAY
AND WHEN I REPLAY THAT EXPERIENCE IN MY MIND,
I GET THIS DAZED, DREAMY LOOK ON MY FACE...
ぼぉーっ
DAAAAAZE
WELL, GOOD FOR YOU!
BUT WE WERE SORT OF JUST GOING ALONG WITH THE SITUATION YESTERDAY...
GOING ALONG WITH THE SITUATION?
WELL...
OKA AND I...
EVERY NOW AND THEN, WE MEET UP IN THE CLASSROOM AFTER SCHOOL...
TUESDAY COLA

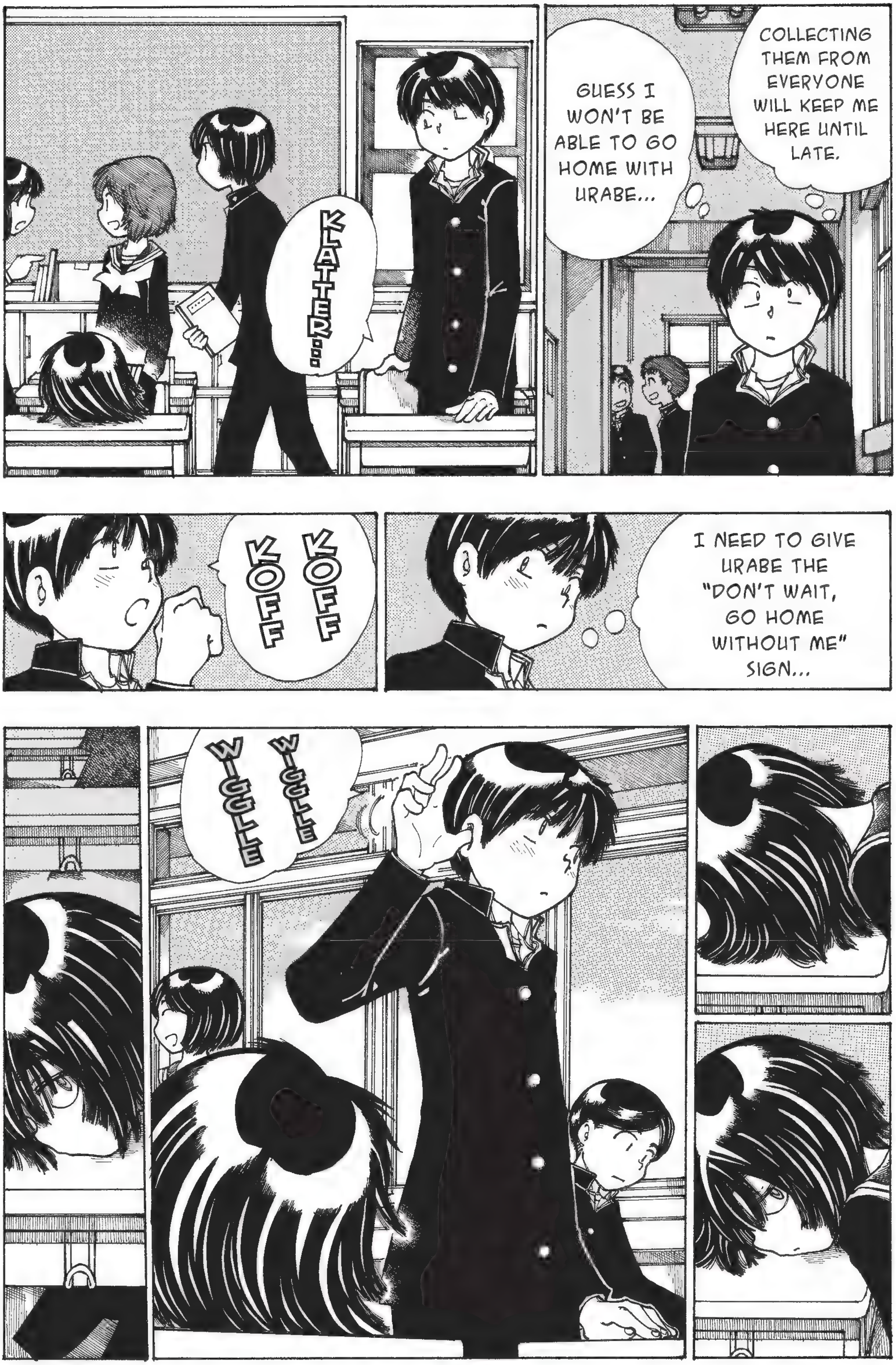

THE CLASSROOM IS ALWAYS CROWDED AND NOISY DURING THE DAY,
SO WHEN WE'RE THERE AT SUNSET, WHEN NOBODY'S AROUND,
IT FEELS ALL THE MORE LIKE IT'S "JUST THE TWO OF US"...
AND IT JUST NATURALLY
TURNS INTO THAT SORT OF MOOD...
WHAT THE HECK? DOESN'T THAT JUST MEAN YOU'RE TOO EASILY AFFECTED BY THE MOOD?
WELL, YEAH, YOU COULD SAY THAT...
BUT STILL, I JUST LOVE THE CLASSROOM AFTER SCHOOL'S OUT...
HE'S REPLAYING IT IN HIS HEAD AGAIN...
TUESDAY COLA
ほぉ〜っ
DAAAAAZE
DREAMY
DAY COLA

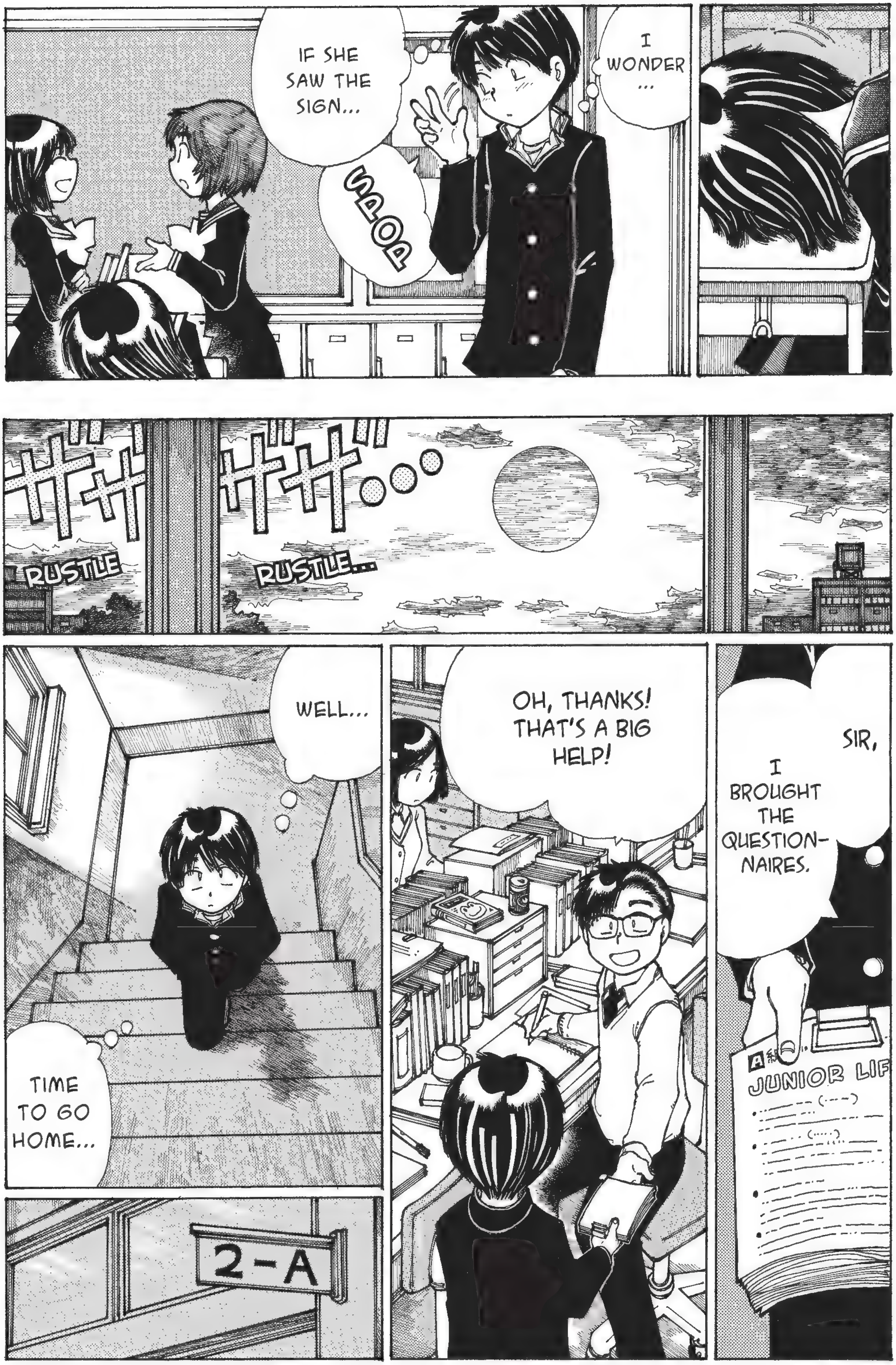

TSUBAKI...
WHAT?
SPRING BENTO FAIR
TWENTY FOUR
24 mart☆
24
RAMEN
STRAWBERRY PARFAIT
MIND IF WE STOP HERE?
BEEP
THAT'LL BE 520 YEN.
4 FOUR
ALMOND CHOCOLATE
POCHY CHOCOLATE
glico
CANDY
LOTTO
PANDA MARCH
MILK CAFE

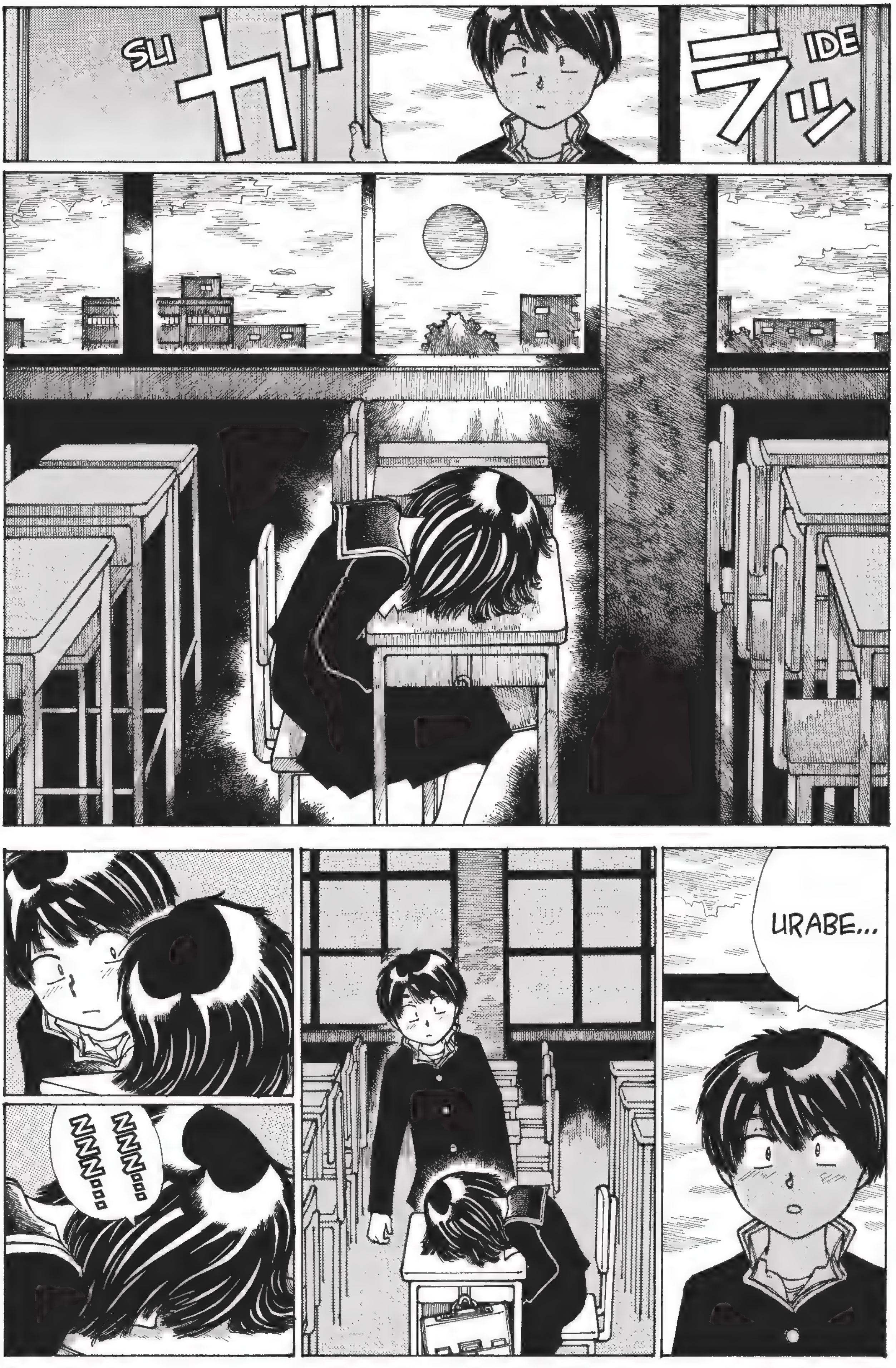

IT'S UNUSUAL
TO SEE YOU BUYING SWEETS...
POCHY
24mart
THE DESSERT THAT OKA GAVE ME DURING LUNCH TODAY WAS SO SWEET,
EVERY TIME I REMEMBER IT...
CRUNCH
IT MAKES ME
WANT TO EAT SOMETHING SWEET...
OH...
WHAT DESSERT DID OKA GIVE YOU?
HUH...?

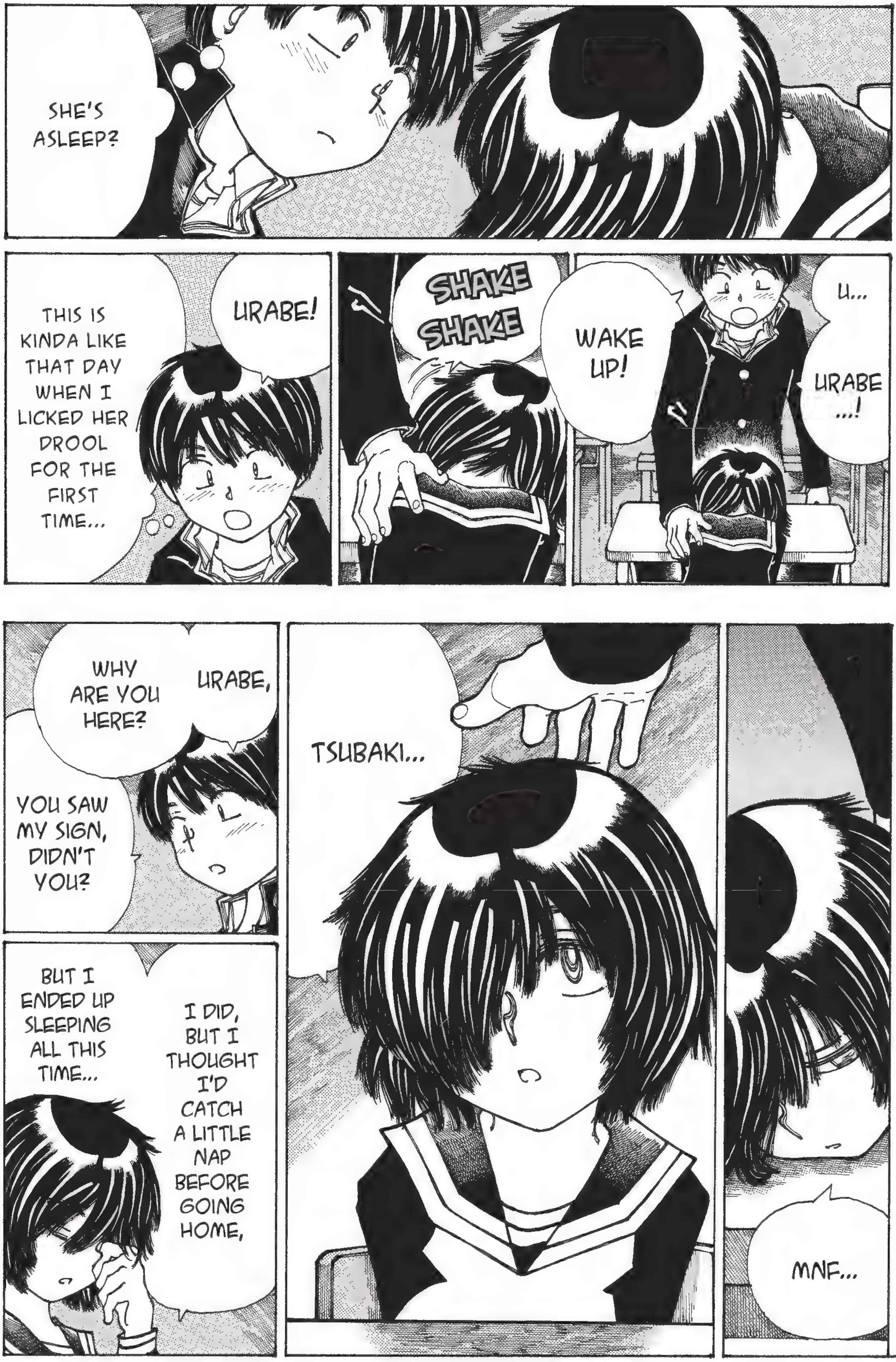

WHAT KIND OF DESSERT WAS IT?
CAKE OR SOMETHING?
...
THAT'S...
THAT'S A SECRET...
A SECRET?
I DON'T SEE WHY SHE CAN'T TELL ME WHAT SHE HAD FOR DESSERT...
CRUNCH
POCHIX
I'M OFF!
AKIRA!
UMBRELLA!
UMBRELLA!

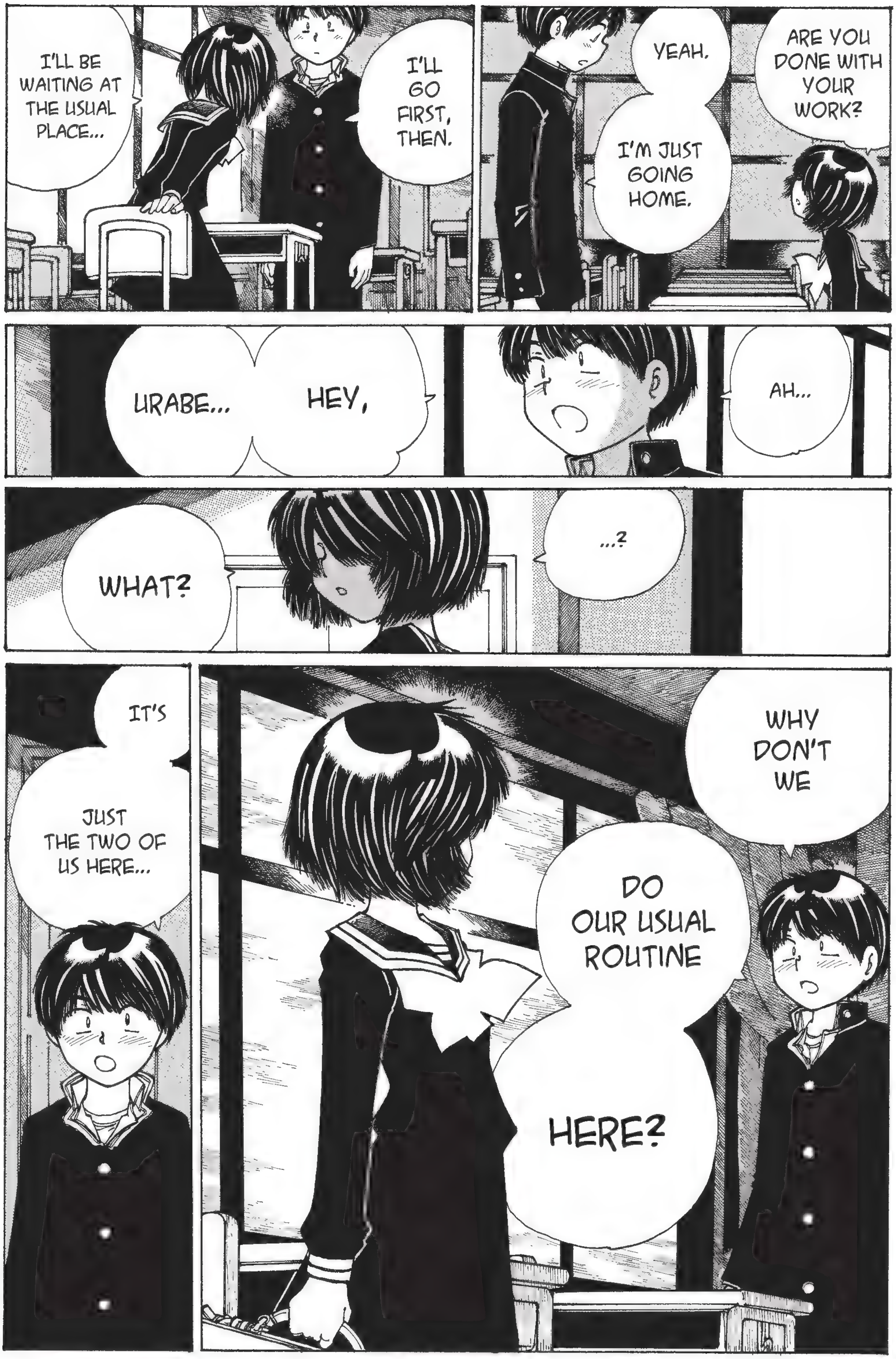

THE FORECAST SAID TO EXPECT RAIN SHOWERS THIS EVENING.
OH, OKAY.
TSU-BAKI!
AH...
I KNOW THOSE QUESTIONNAIRES I ASKED YOU TO COLLECT
WEREN'T NEEDED UNTIL THE END OF THE WEEK...
BUT NOW WE SUDDENLY NEED THEM TODAY...
OH...
SORRY, BUT COULD YOU COLLECT THEM AND BRING THEM TO ME TODAY?
YES!
SORRY TO ALWAYS ASK SO MUCH.
IT'S OKAY...
THAT'S THE KIND OF JOB THIS IS...
BRING THEM TO THE FACULTY OFFICE AFTER SCHOOL.

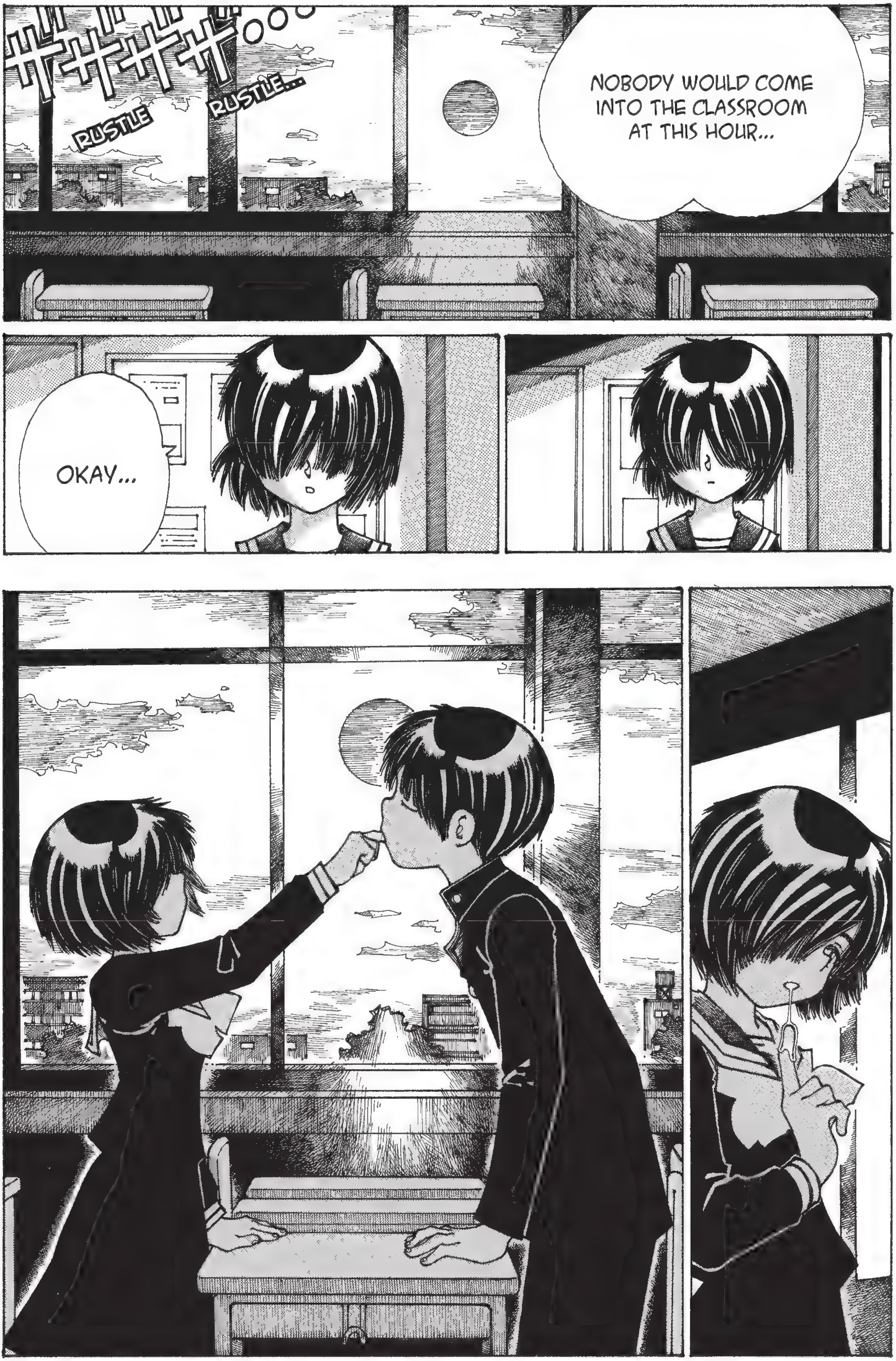

COLLECTING THEM FROM EVERYONE WILL KEEP ME HERE UNTIL LATE.
GUESS I WON'T BE ABLE TO GO HOME WITH URABE...
KLATTER...
I NEED TO GIVE URABE THE "DON'T WAIT, GO HOME WITHOUT ME" SIGN...
KOFF KOFF
WIGGLE WIGGLE

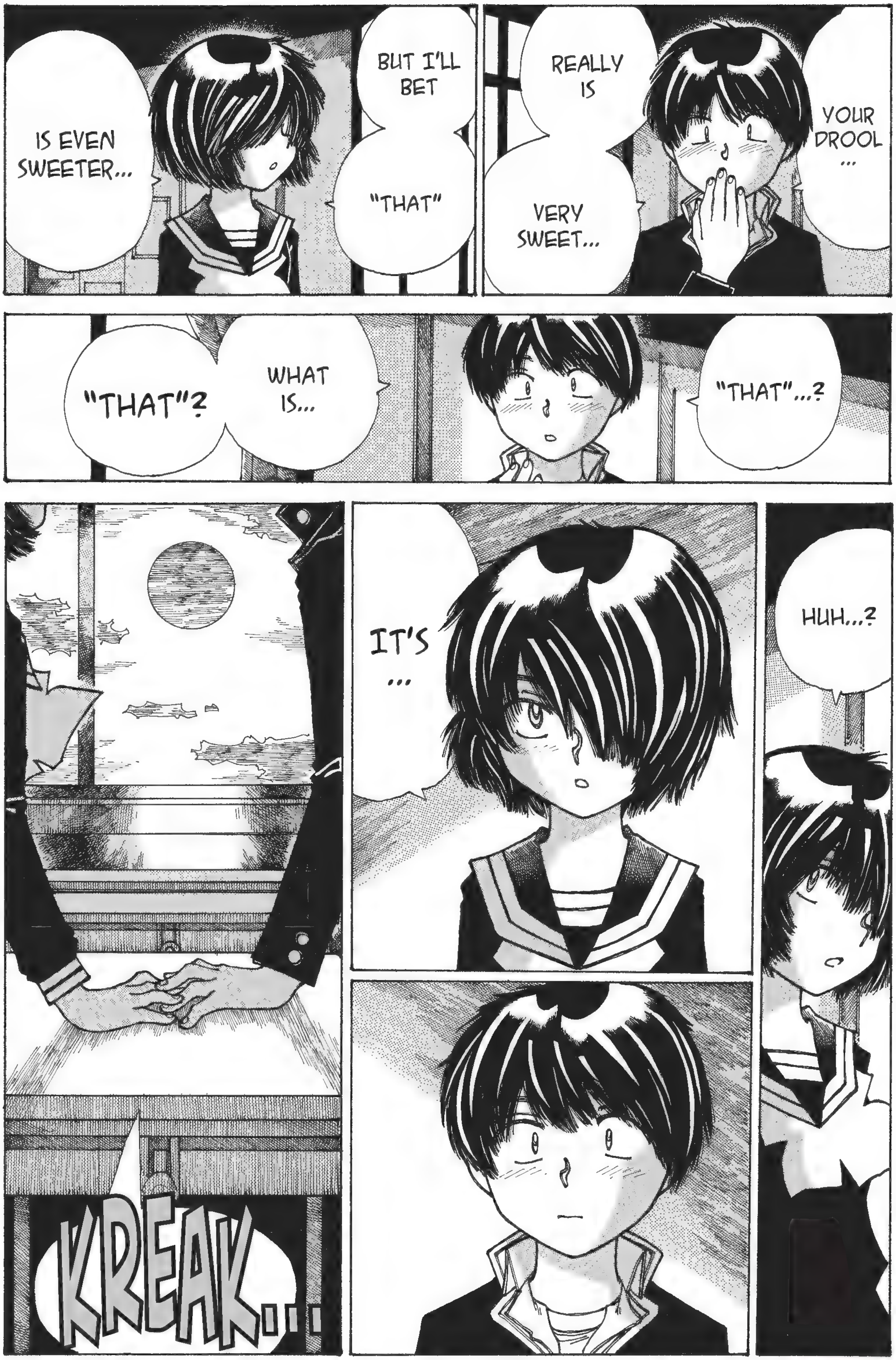

I WONDER...
IF SHE SAW THE SIGN...
SWOOP
ザザ…
RUSTLE...
ザザ
RUSTLE
SIR, I BROUGHT THE QUESTIONNAIRES.
JUNIOR LIF
OH, THANKS! THAT'S A BIG HELP!
WELL...
TIME TO GO HOME...
2-A

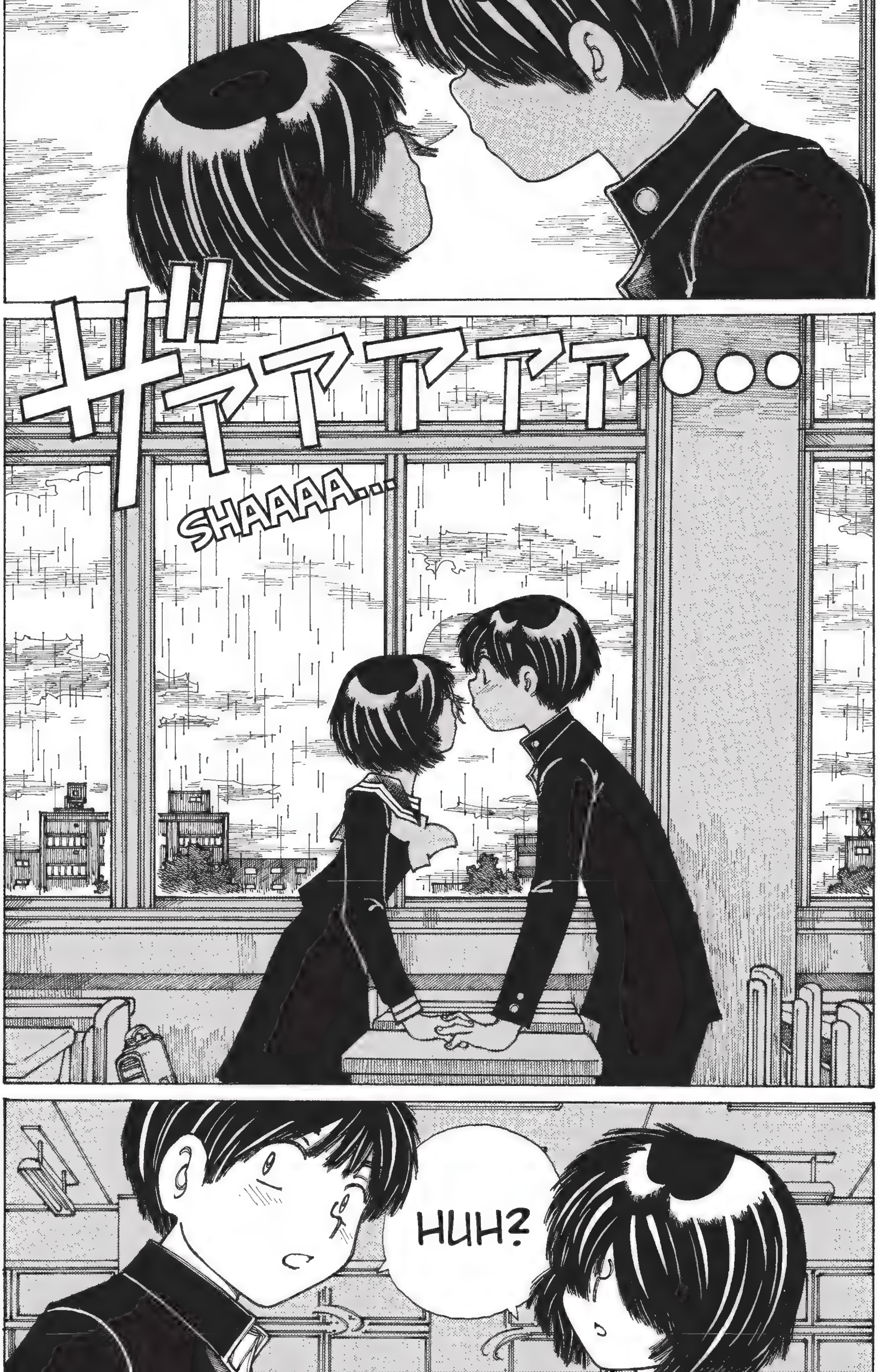

SLI
ガ
ラッ
IDE
URABE...
ZZZ...
ZZZ...

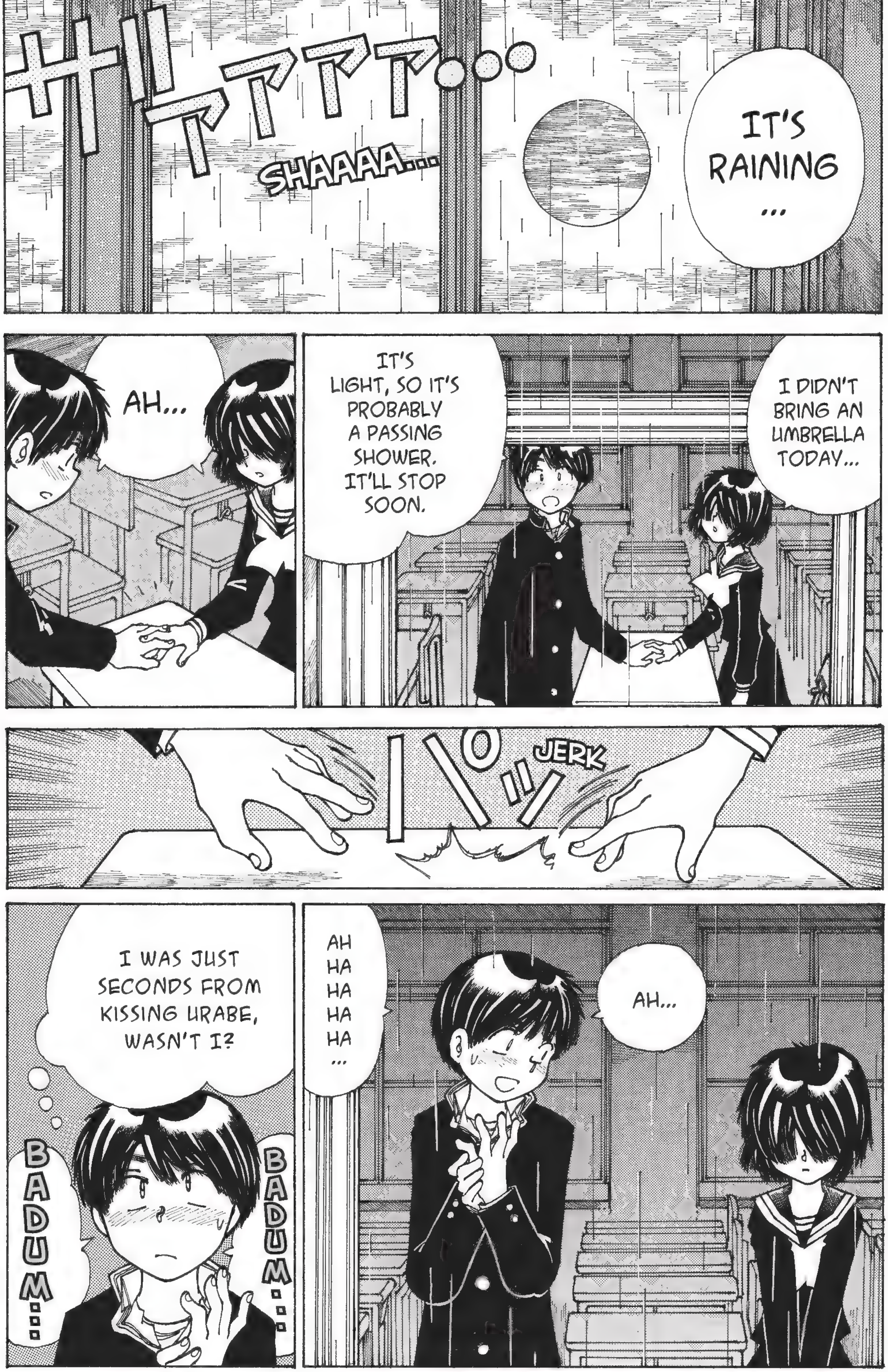

SHE'S ASLEEP?
U... URABE...!
WAKE UP!
SHAKE SHAKE
URABE!
THIS IS KINDA LIKE THAT DAY WHEN I LICKED HER DROOL FOR THE FIRST TIME...
MNF...
TSUBAKI...
URABE,
WHY ARE YOU HERE?
YOU SAW MY SIGN, DIDN'T YOU?
I DID, BUT I THOUGHT I'D CATCH A LITTLE NAP BEFORE GOING HOME,
BUT I ENDED UP SLEEPING ALL THIS TIME...

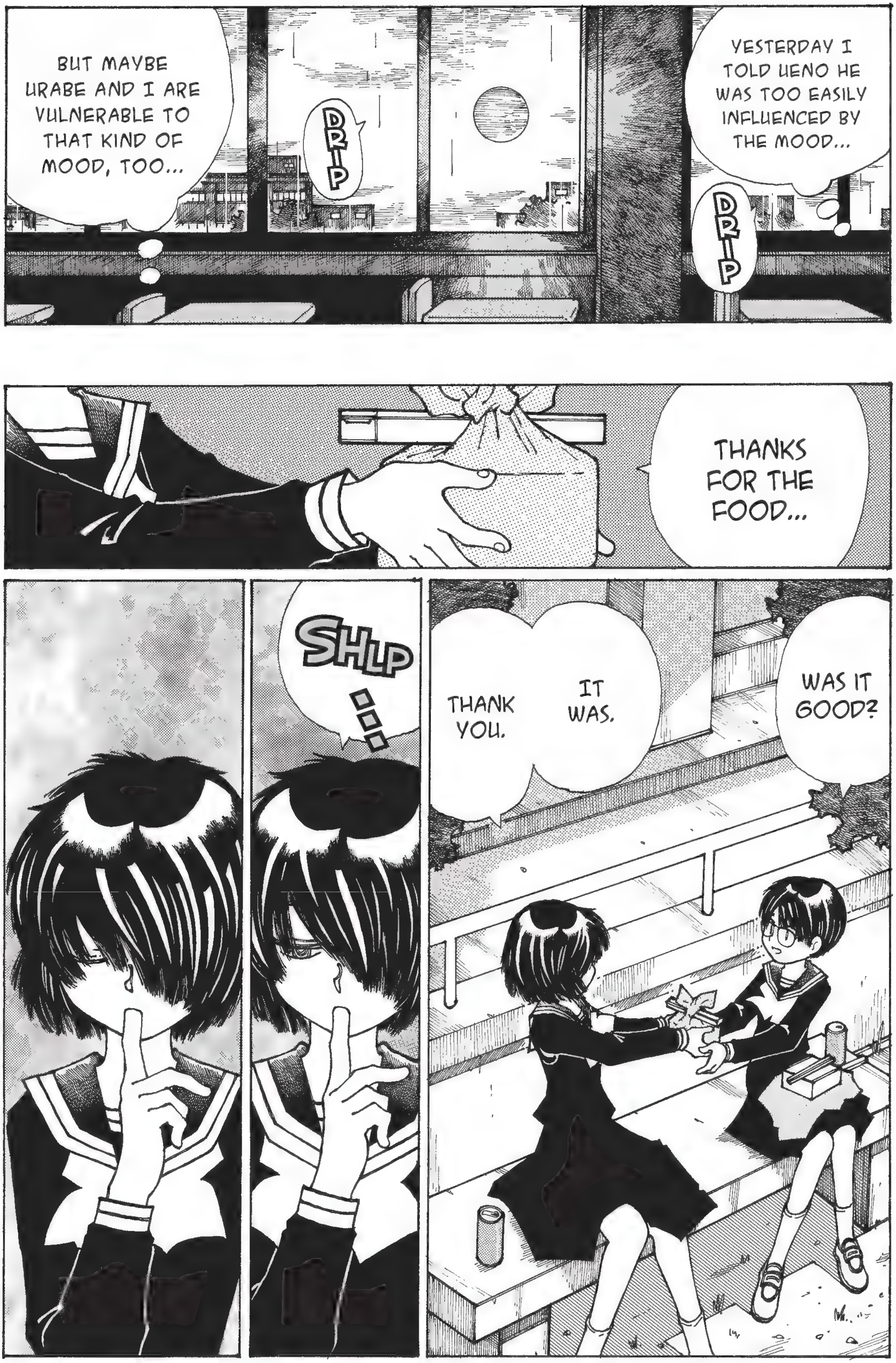

ARE YOU DONE WITH YOUR WORK?
YEAH.
I'M JUST GOING HOME.
I'LL GO FIRST, THEN.
I'LL BE WAITING AT THE USUAL PLACE...
AH...
HEY,
URABE...
...?
WHAT?
WHY DON'T WE
DO OUR USUAL ROUTINE
HERE?
IT'S
JUST THE TWO OF US HERE...

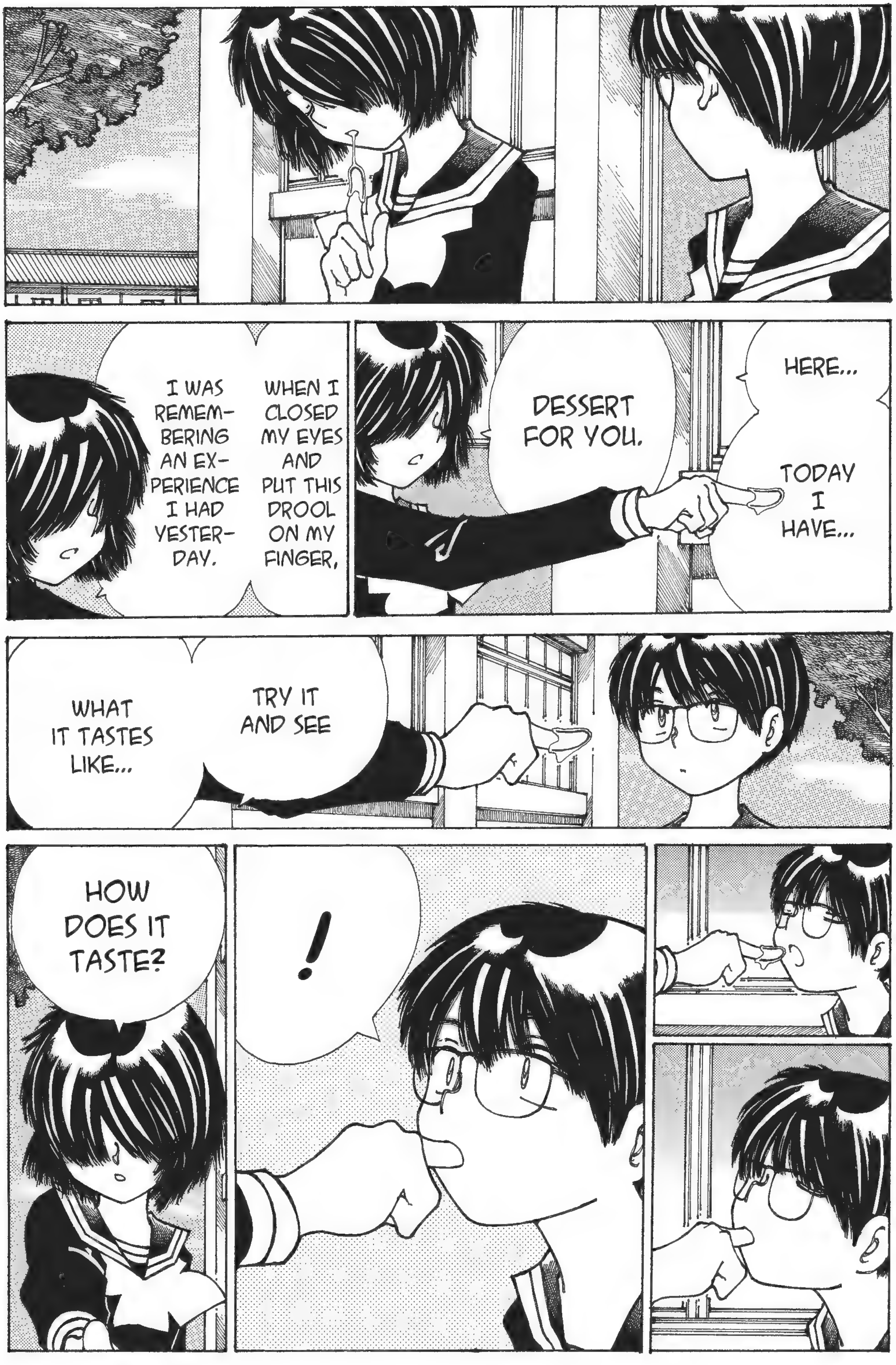

NOBODY WOULD COME INTO THE CLASSROOM AT THIS HOUR...
ザザザザザooo
RUSTLE RUSTLE...
OKAY...

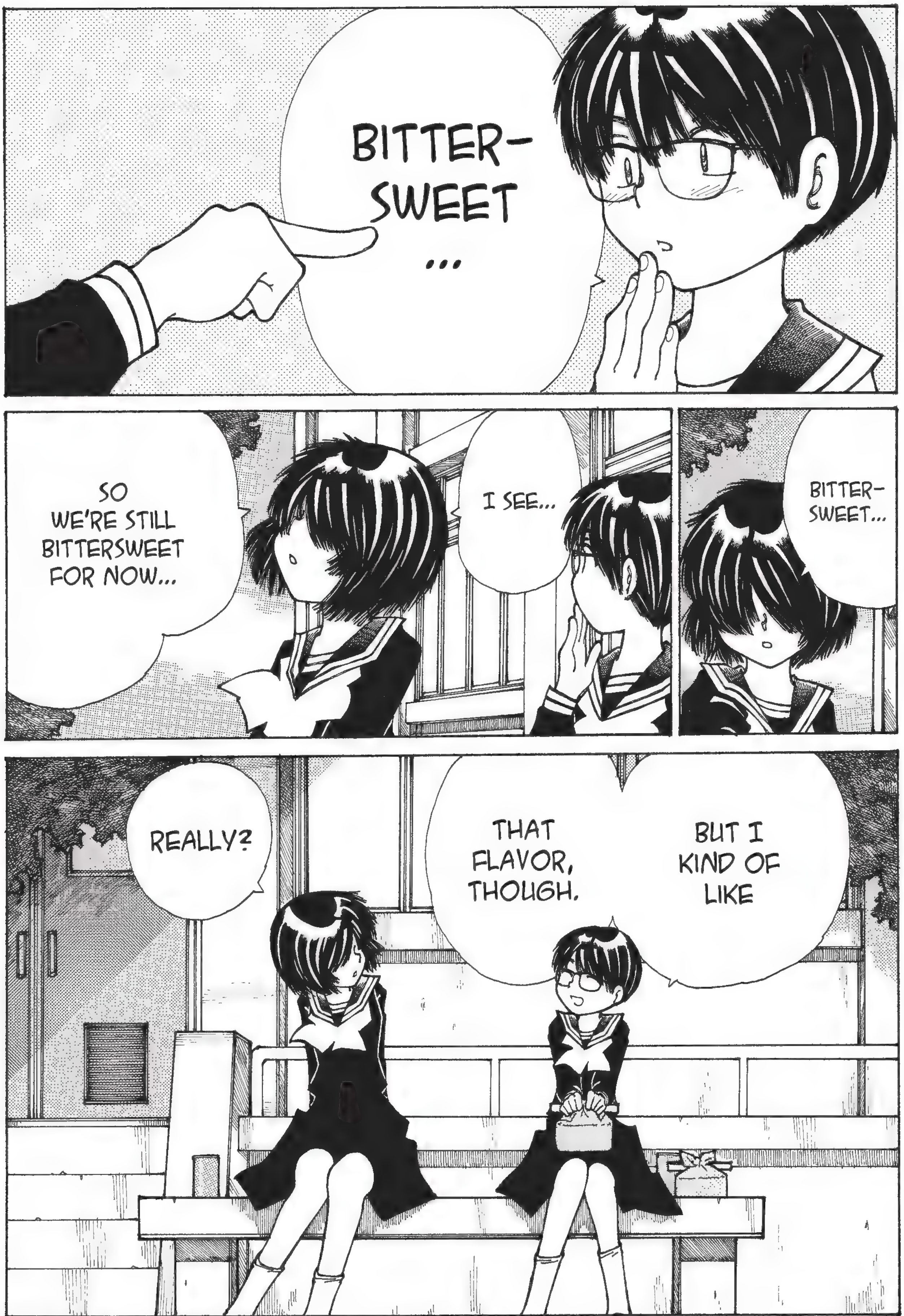

YOUR DROOL...
REALLY IS
VERY SWEET...
BUT I'LL BET
"THAT"
IS EVEN SWEETER...
"THAT"...?
WHAT IS...
"THAT"?
HUH...?
IT'S ...
KREAK...


ザァァァァ・・・
SHAAAA...
HUH?


IT'S RAINING ...
サ‼アアア…
SHAAAA...
I DIDN'T BRING AN UMBRELLA TODAY...
IT'S LIGHT, SO IT'S PROBABLY A PASSING SHOWER. IT'LL STOP SOON.
AH...
パッ
JERK
AH...
AH HA HA HA HA ...
I WAS JUST SECONDS FROM KISSING URABE, WASN'T I?
BADUM...
BADUM...

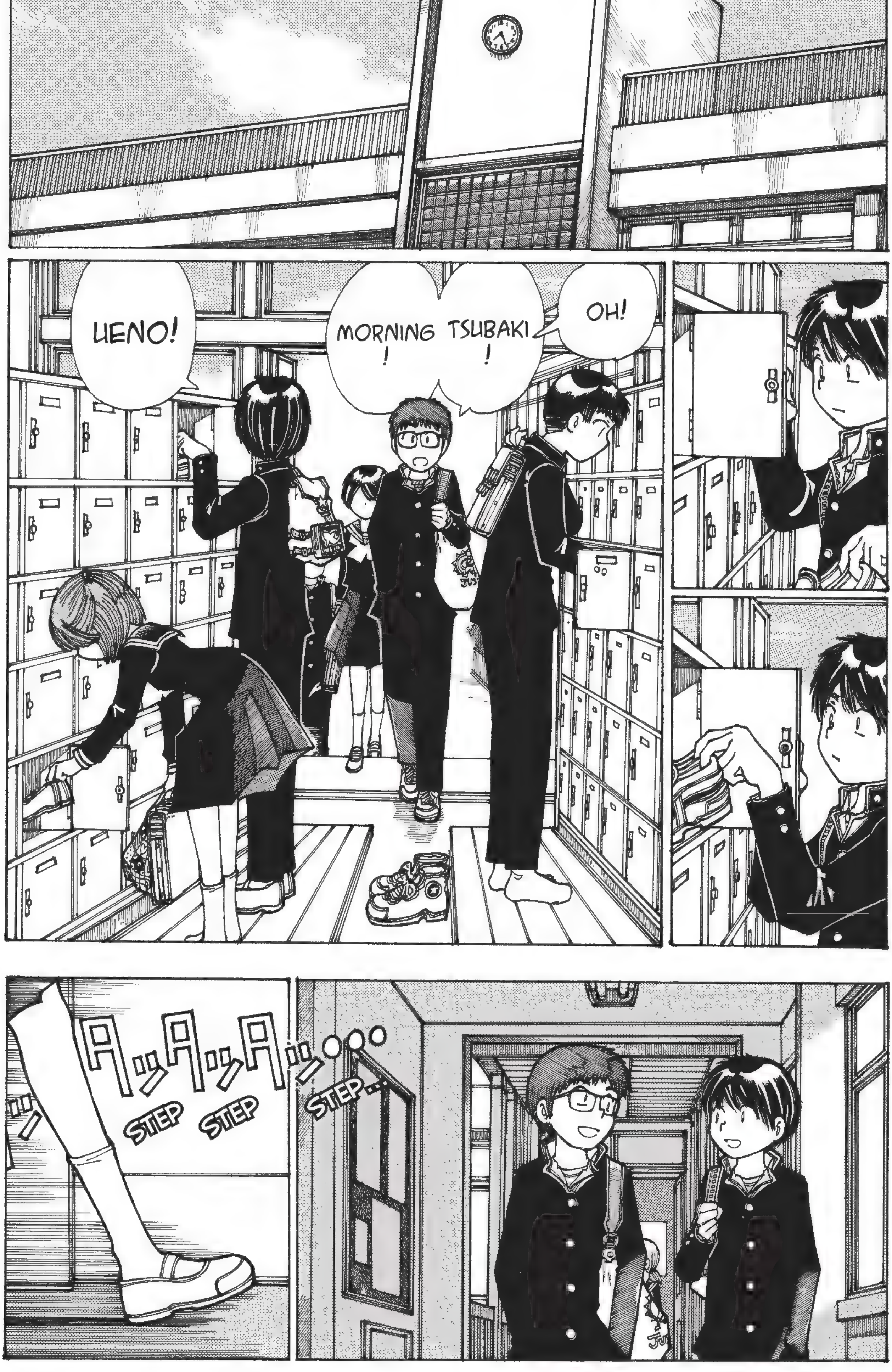

YESTERDAY I TOLD UENO HE WAS TOO EASILY INFLUENCED BY THE MOOD...
DRIP
DRIP
BUT MAYBE URABE AND I ARE VULNERABLE TO THAT KIND OF MOOD, TOO...
THANKS FOR THE FOOD...
WAS IT GOOD?
IT WAS.
THANK YOU.
SHLP
...

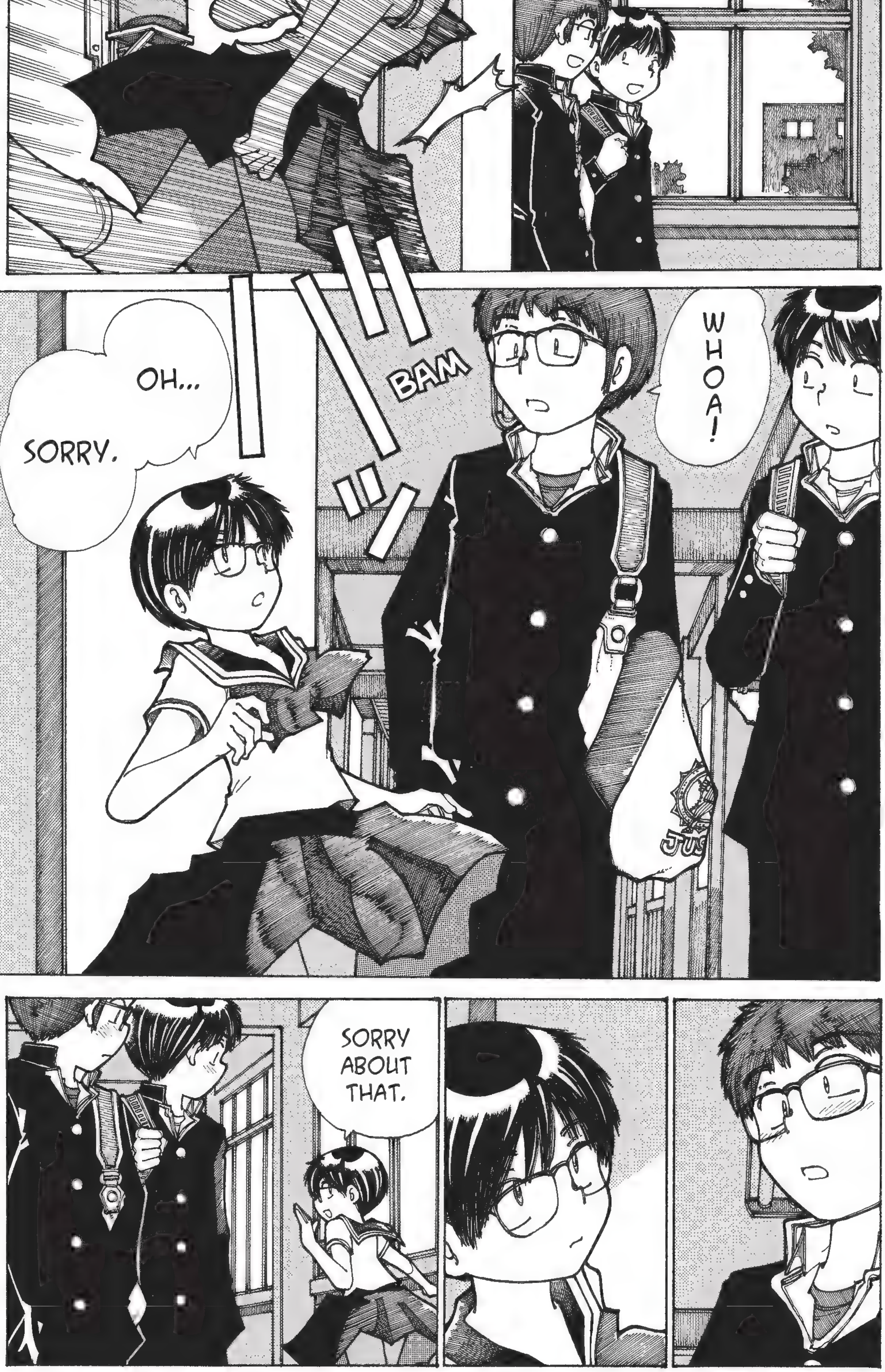

HERE...
TODAY I HAVE...
DESSERT FOR YOU.
WHEN I CLOSED MY EYES AND PUT THIS DROOL ON MY FINGER,
I WAS REMEMBERING AN EXPERIENCE I HAD YESTERDAY.
TRY IT AND SEE
WHAT IT TASTES LIKE...
!
HOW DOES IT TASTE?

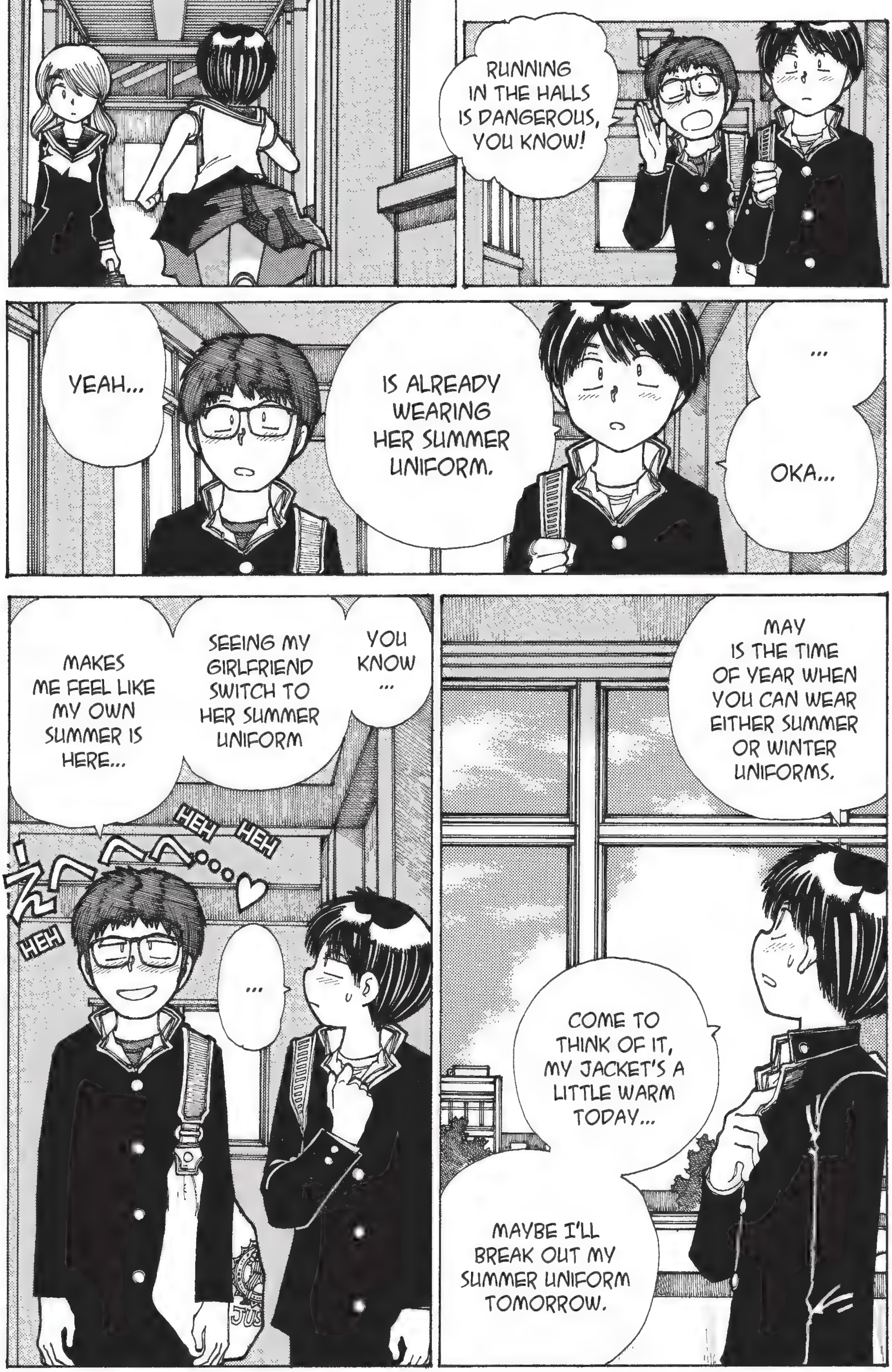

BITTER-SWEET...
BITTER-SWEET...
I SEE...
SO WE'RE STILL BITTERSWEET FOR NOW...
BUT I KIND OF LIKE
THAT FLAVOR, THOUGH.
REALLY?

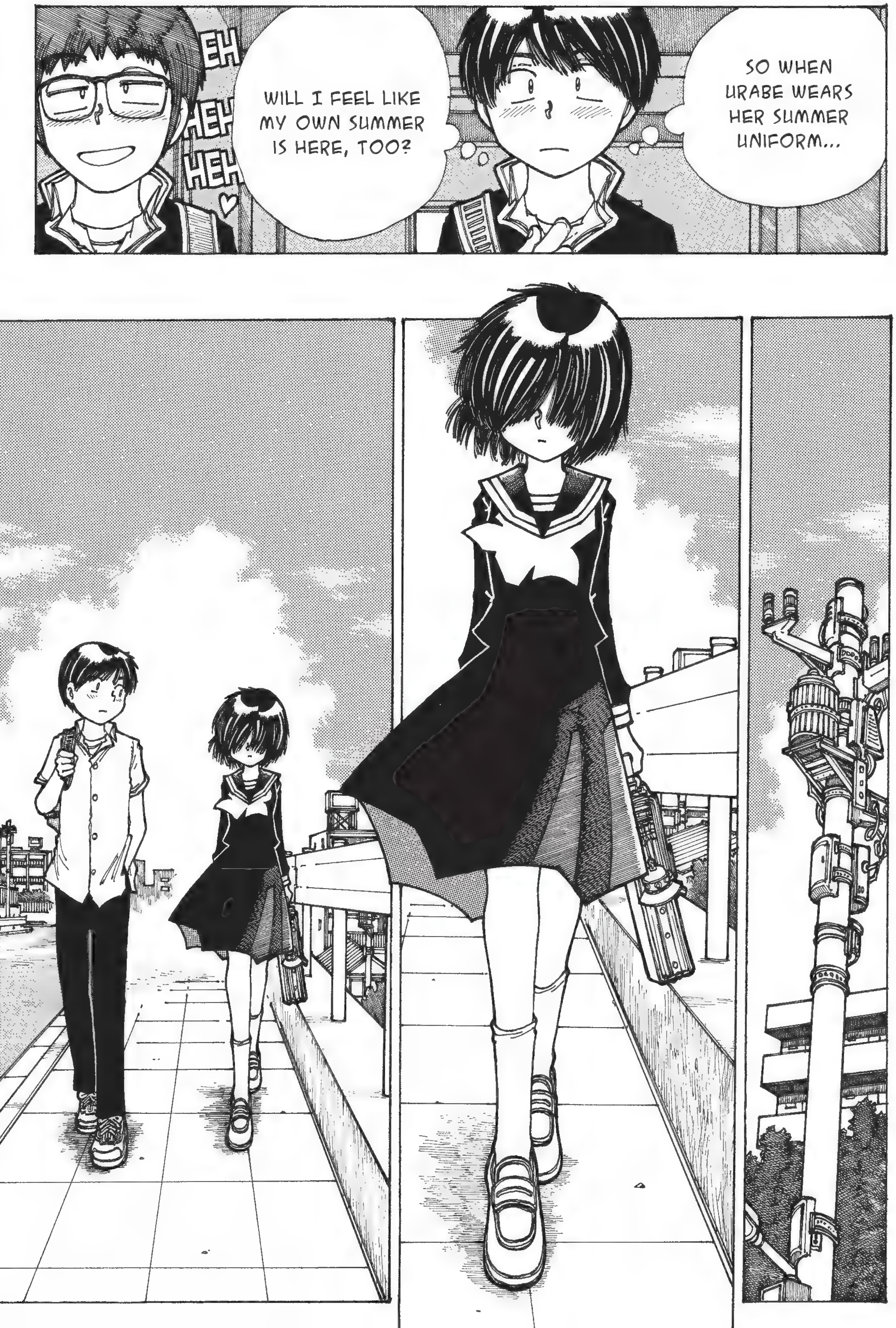
END OF CHAPTER 13

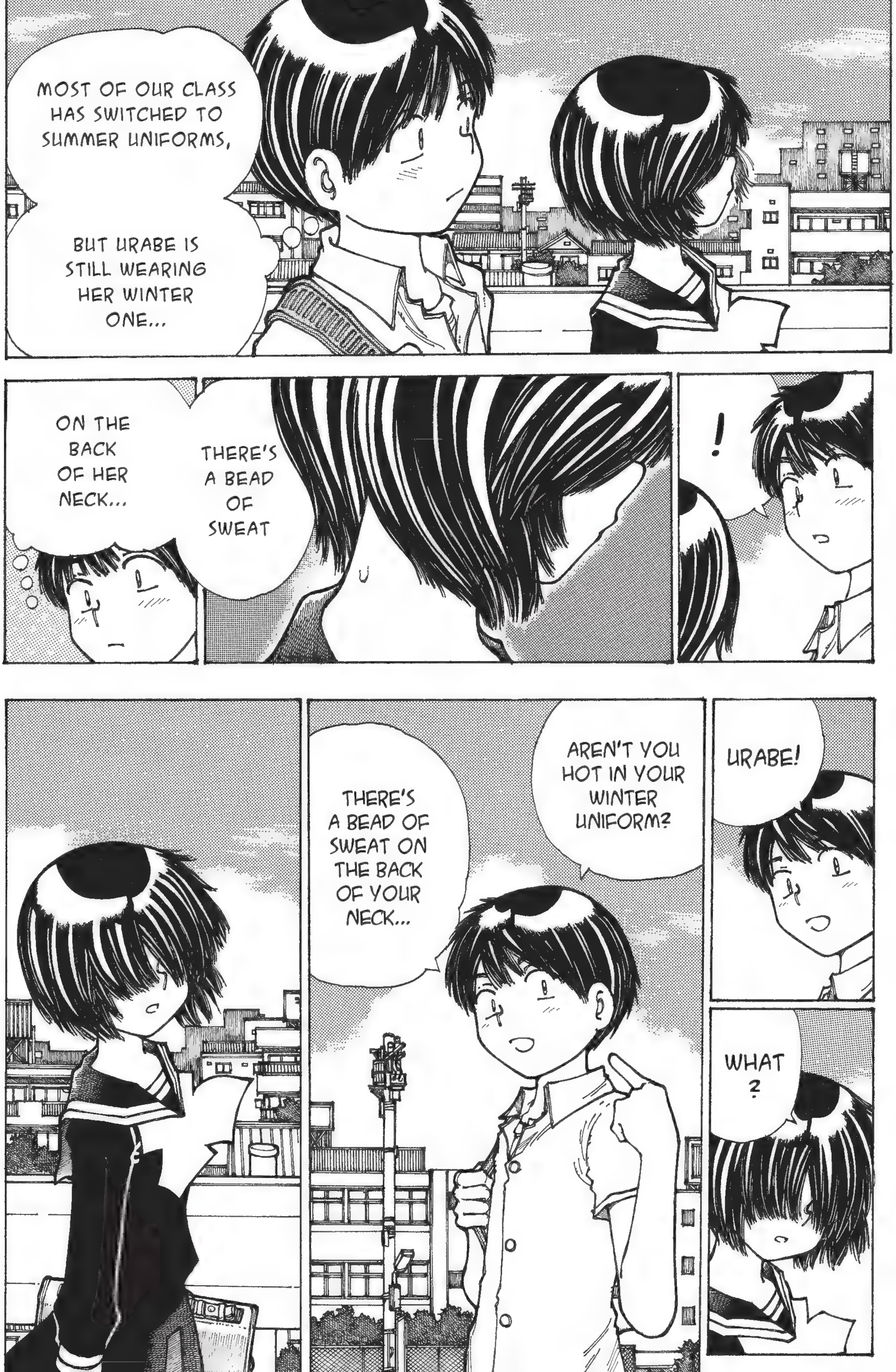
CHAPTER 14: MYSTERIOUS RAIN SHELTER

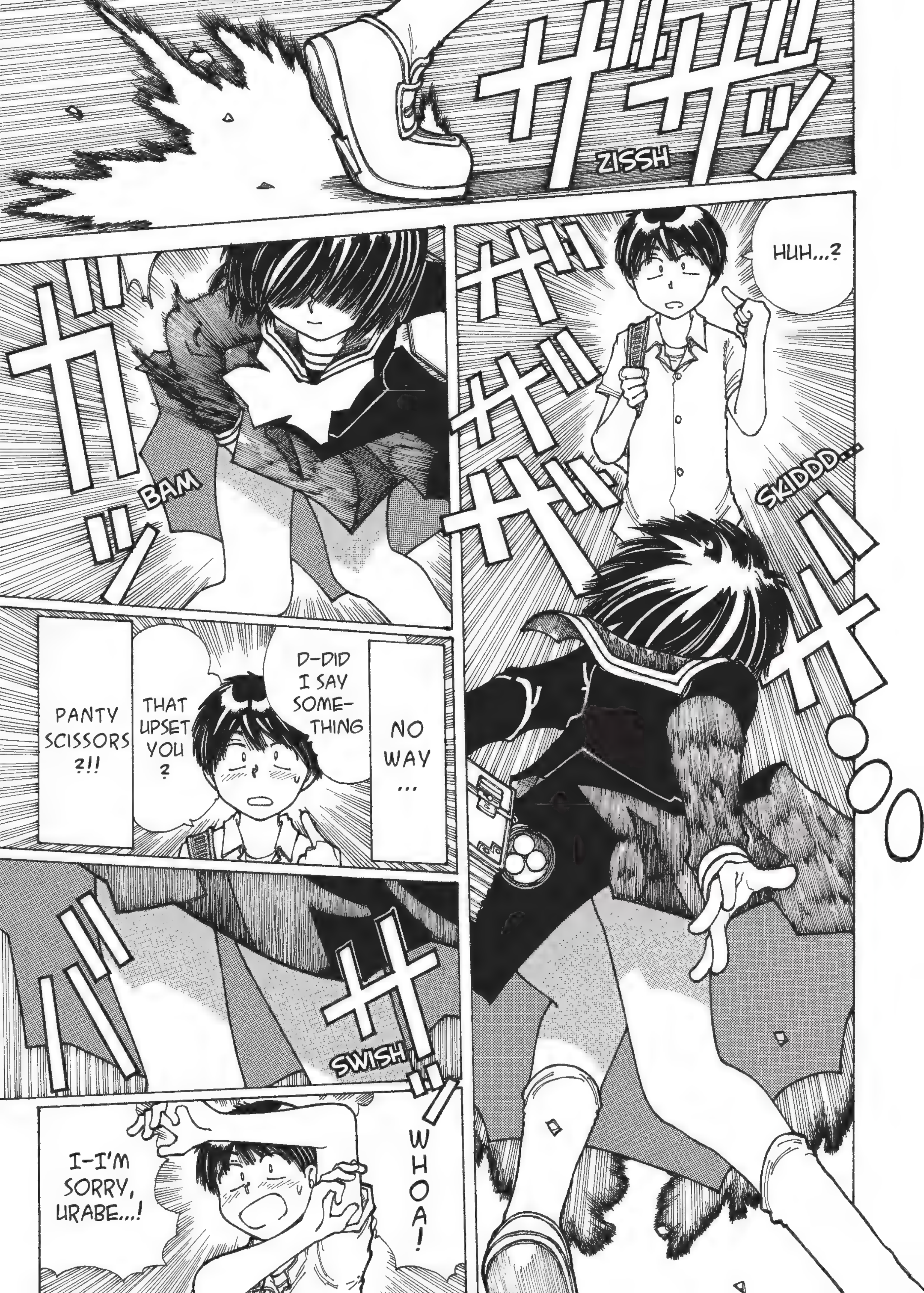

OH!
MORNING! TSUBAKI!
UENO!
ッ
AッAッAッ...
STEP STEP
STEP...

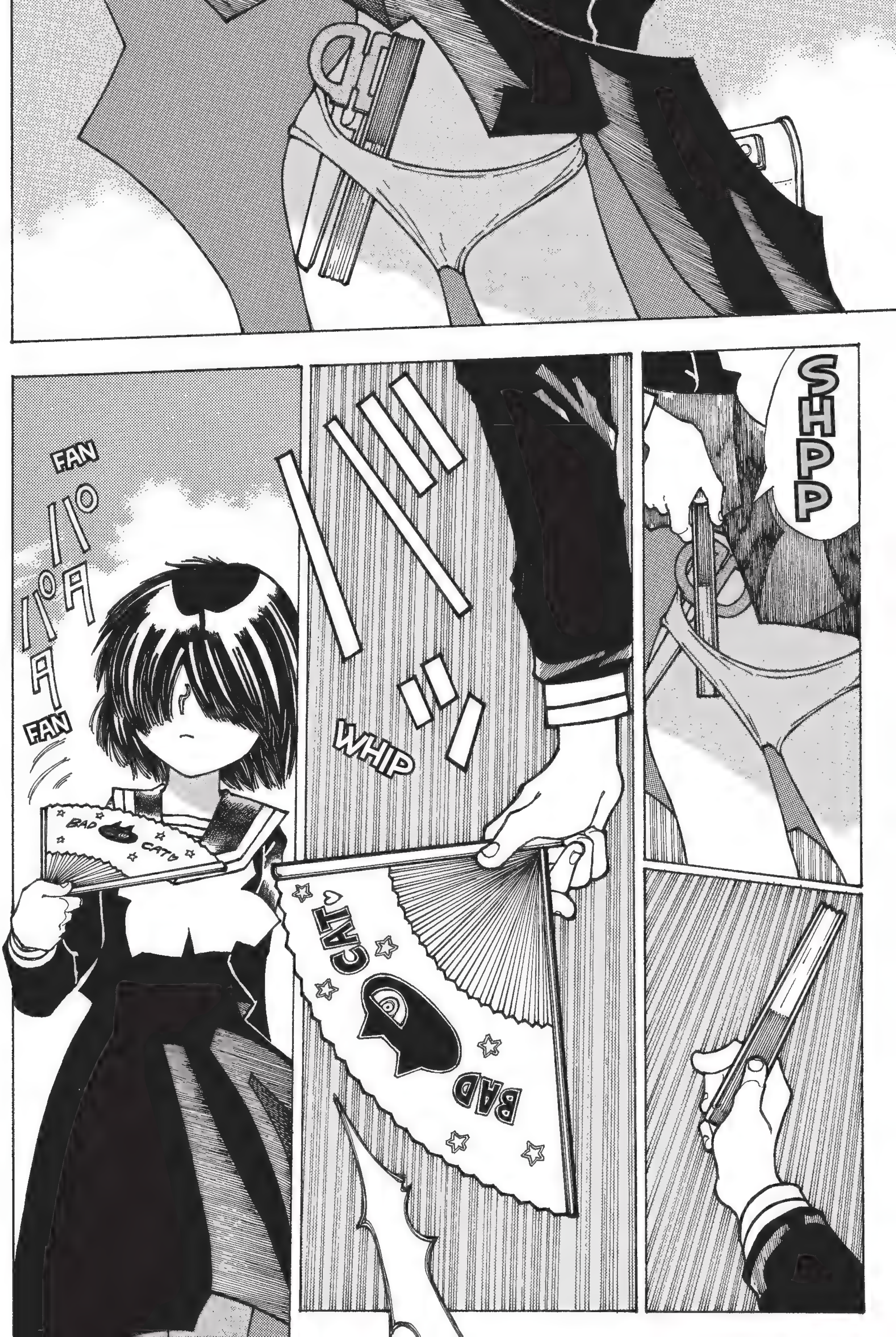

WHOA!
BAM
OH... SORRY.
JUS
SORRY ABOUT THAT.

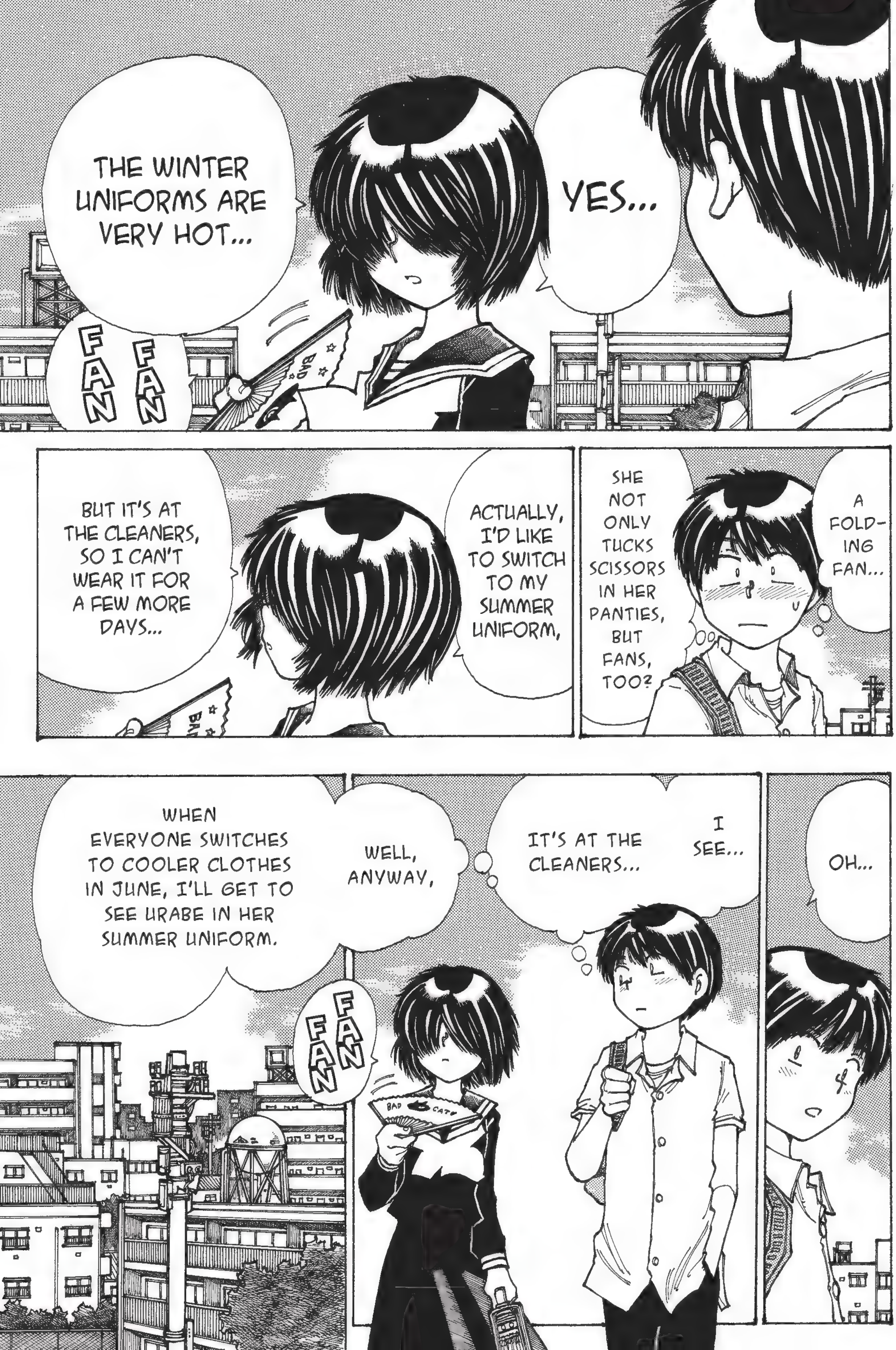

RUNNING IN THE HALLS IS DANGEROUS, YOU KNOW!
...
OKA...
IS ALREADY WEARING HER SUMMER UNIFORM.
YEAH...
MAY IS THE TIME OF YEAR WHEN YOU CAN WEAR EITHER SUMMER OR WINTER UNIFORMS.
COME TO THINK OF IT, MY JACKET'S A LITTLE WARM TODAY...
MAYBE I'LL BREAK OUT MY SUMMER UNIFORM TOMORROW.
YOU KNOW...
SEEING MY GIRLFRIEND SWITCH TO HER SUMMER UNIFORM
MAKES ME FEEL LIKE MY OWN SUMMER IS HERE...
HEH HEH
えへへへ♡
HEH
...

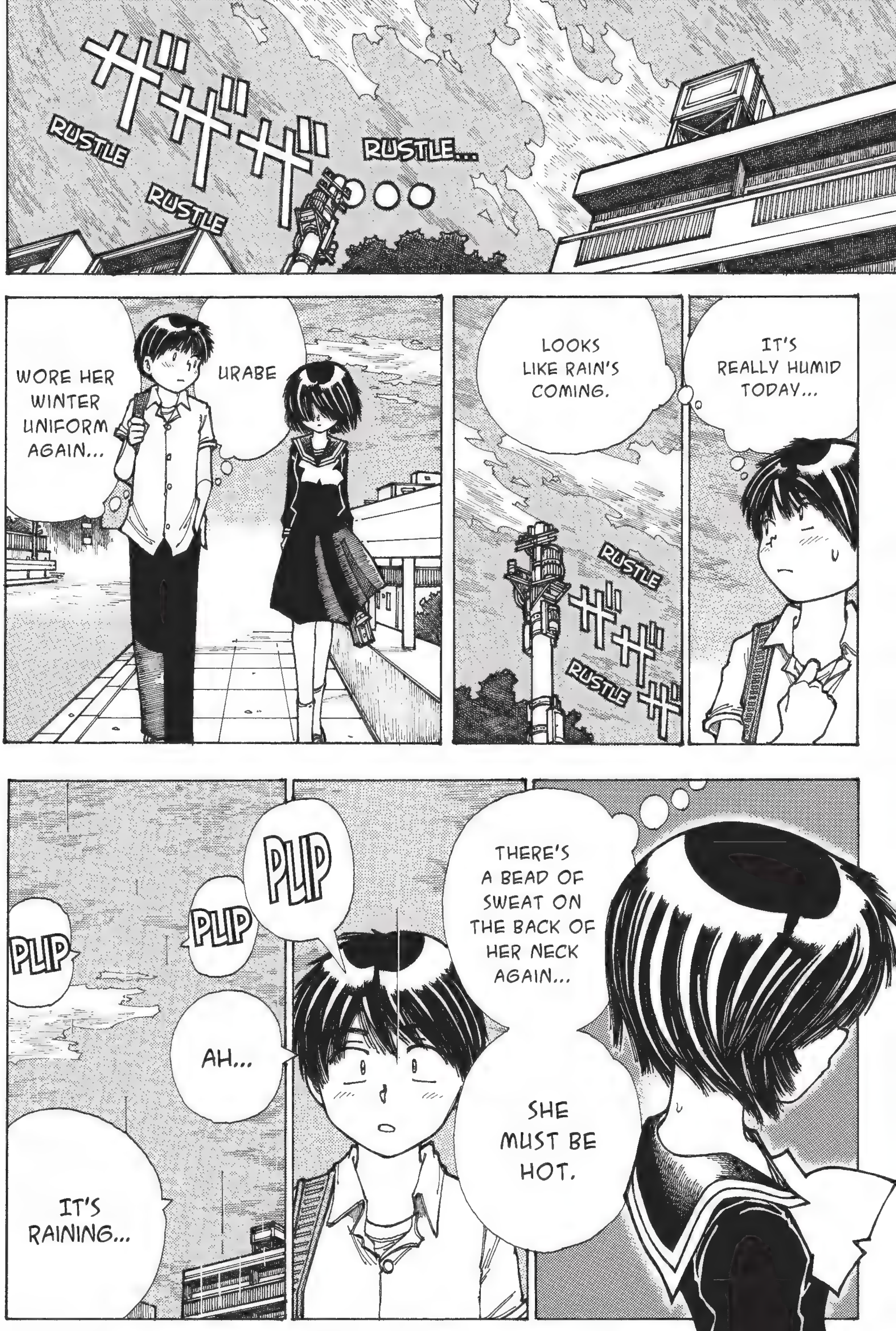

SO WHEN URABE WEARS HER SUMMER UNIFORM...
WILL I FEEL LIKE MY OWN SUMMER IS HERE, TOO?
HEH HEH HEH

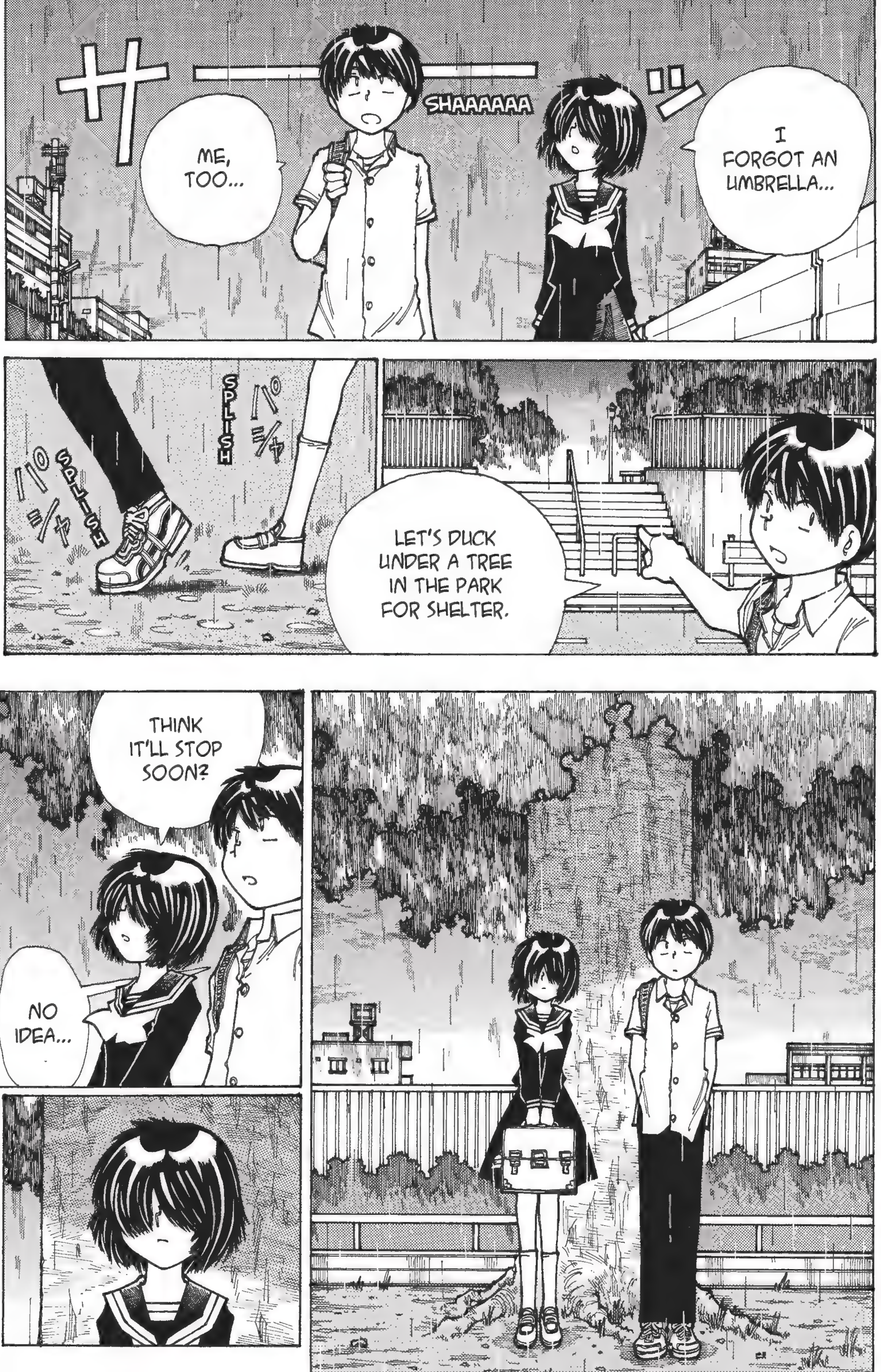

MOST OF OUR CLASS HAS SWITCHED TO SUMMER UNIFORMS,
BUT URABE IS STILL WEARING HER WINTER ONE...
!
THERE'S A BEAD OF SWEAT
ON THE BACK OF HER NECK...
URABE!
WHAT?
AREN'T YOU HOT IN YOUR WINTER UNIFORM?
THERE'S A BEAD OF SWEAT ON THE BACK OF YOUR NECK...

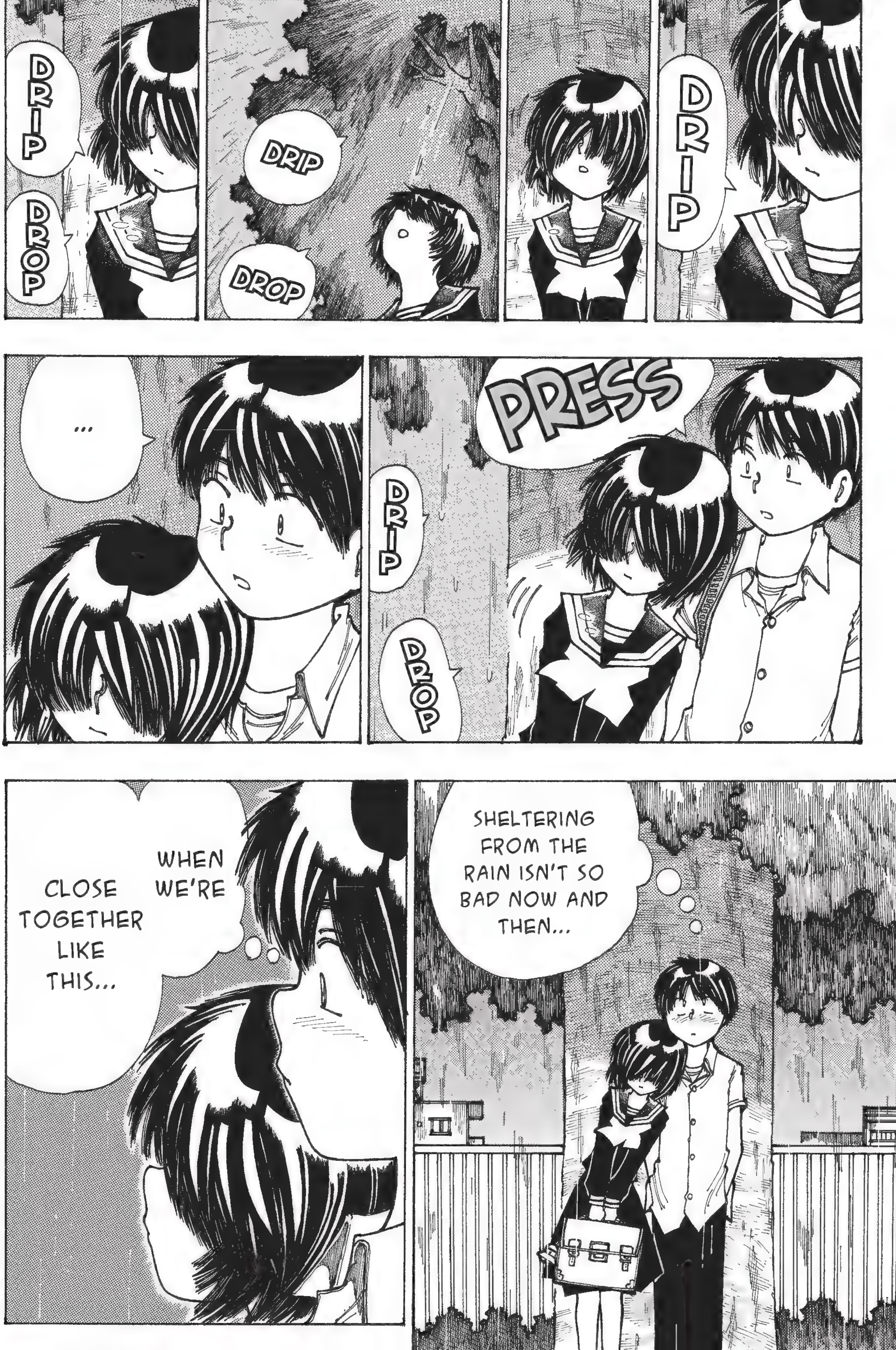

ザザッ
ZISSH
HUH...?
ザザザ
SKIDDD...
ガッ
BAM
NO WAY...
D-DID I SAY SOMETHING THAT UPSET YOU?
PANTY SCISSORS?!!
ザッ
SWISH
WHOA!
I-I'M SORRY, URABE...!

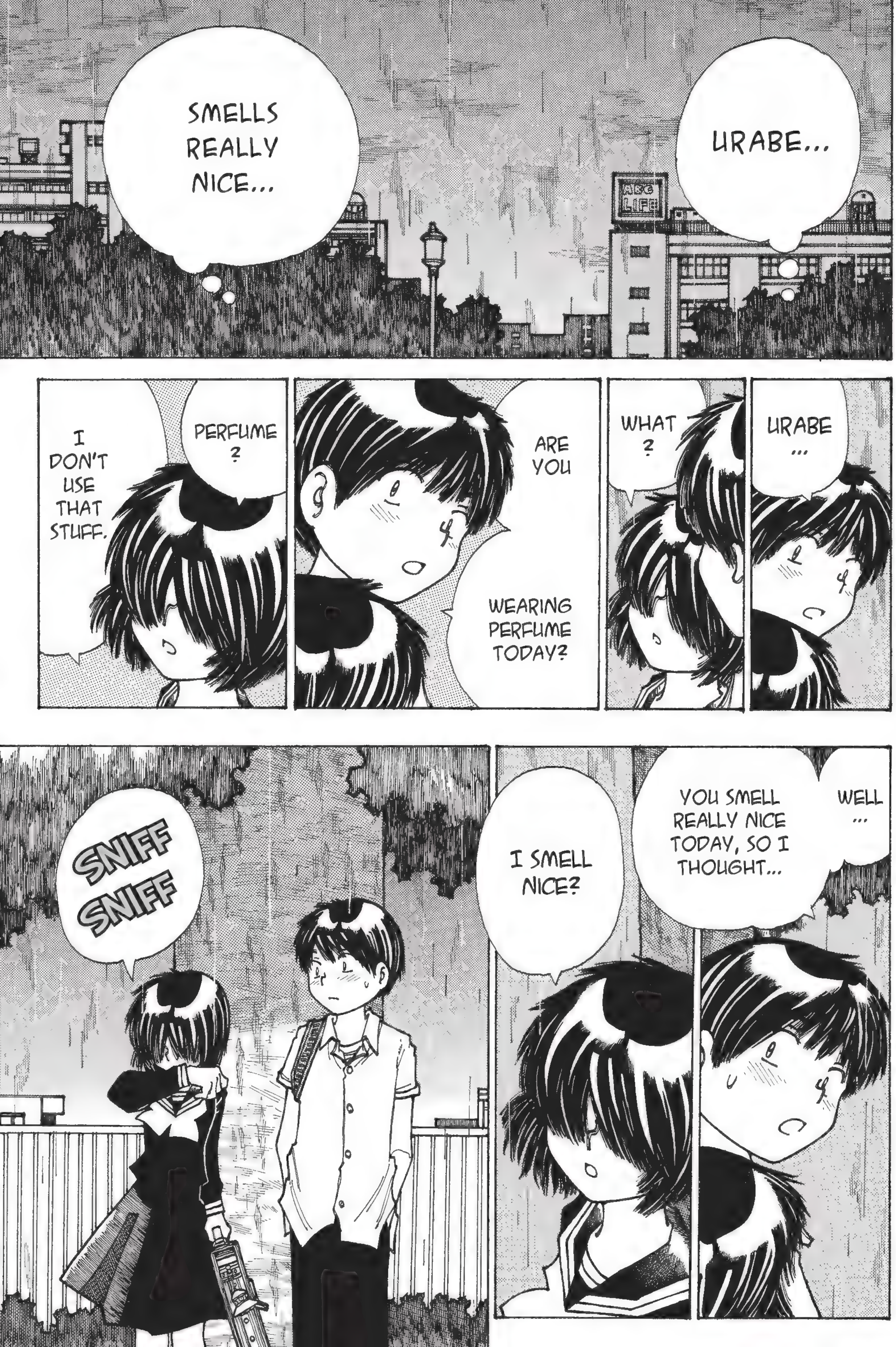

SHPP
WHIP
BAD CAT♥
FAN
パタパタ
FAN
BAD CAT♥

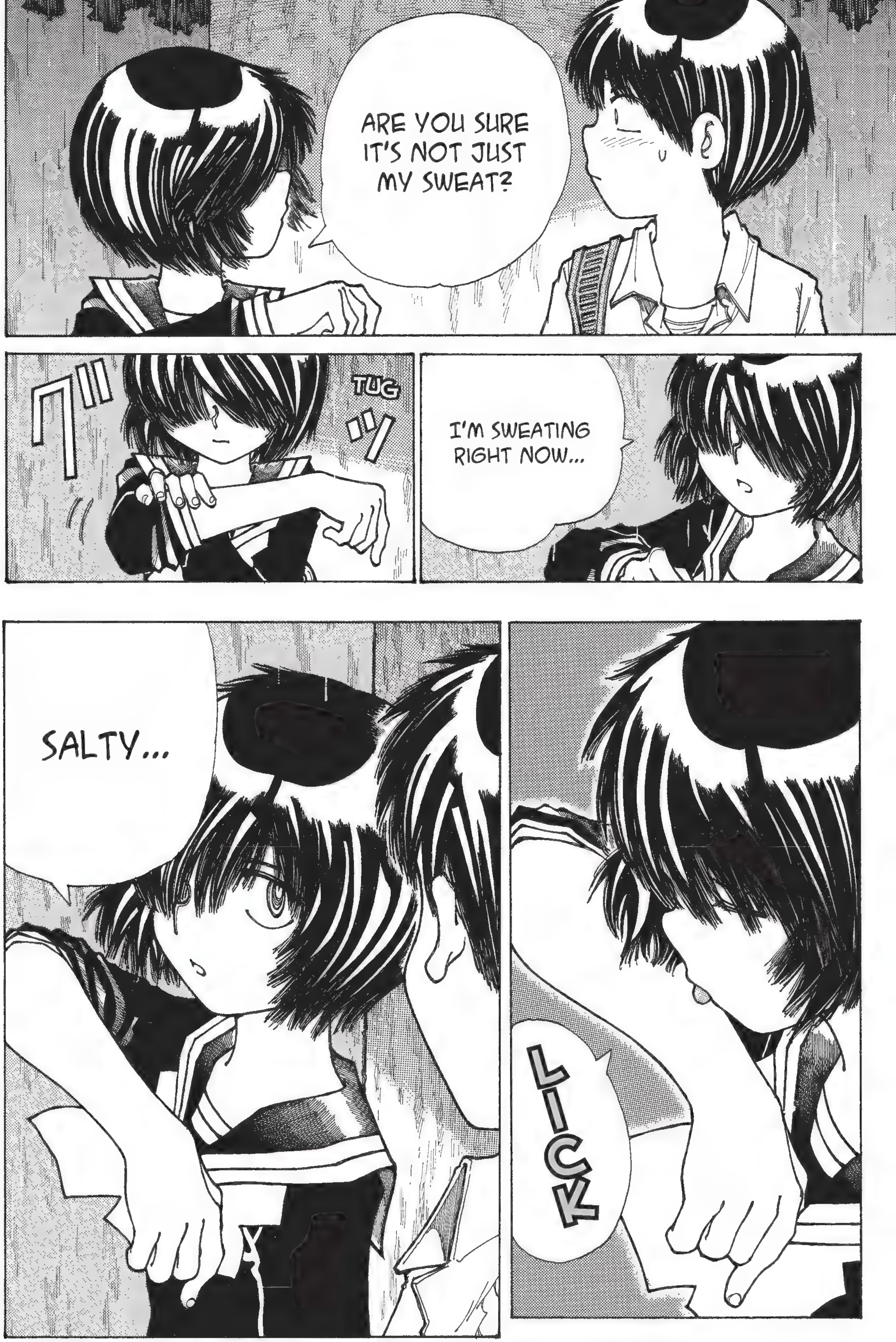

YES...
THE WINTER UNIFORMS ARE VERY HOT...
FAN FAN
BAD
A FOLDING FAN...
SHE NOT ONLY TUCKS SCISSORS IN HER PANTIES, BUT FANS, TOO?
ACTUALLY, I'D LIKE TO SWITCH TO MY SUMMER UNIFORM,
BUT IT'S AT THE CLEANERS, SO I CAN'T WEAR IT FOR A FEW MORE DAYS...
BAD
OH...
I SEE...
IT'S AT THE CLEANERS...
WELL, ANYWAY,
FAN FAN
BAD CAT
WHEN EVERYONE SWITCHES TO COOLER CLOTHES IN JUNE, I'LL GET TO SEE URABE IN HER SUMMER UNIFORM.

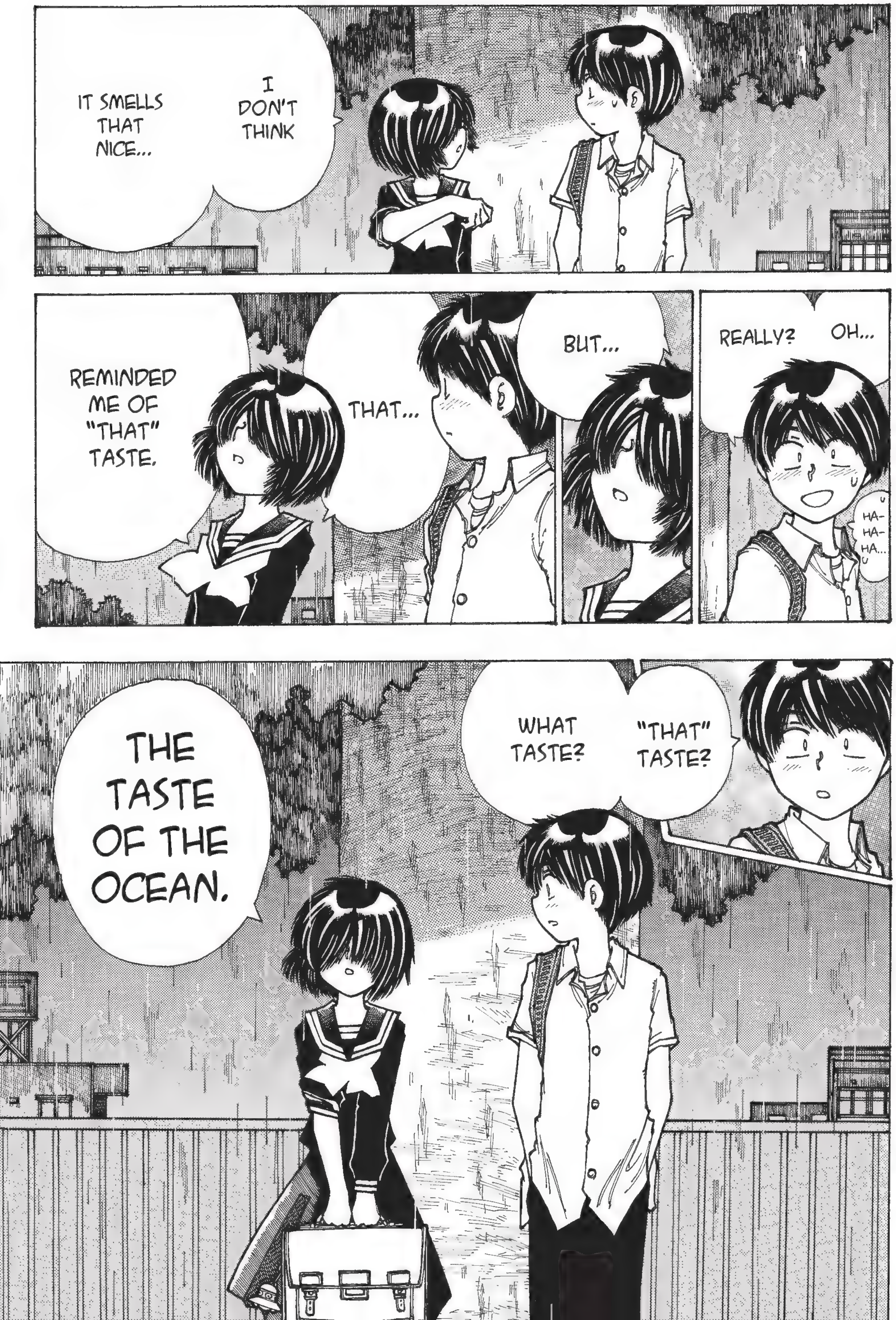

ザザザ
RUSTLE
RUSTLE
RUSTLE...
IT'S REALLY HUMID TODAY...
LOOKS LIKE RAIN'S COMING.
RUSTLE
ザザ
RUSTLE
ザ
URABE
WORE HER WINTER UNIFORM AGAIN...
THERE'S A BEAD OF SWEAT ON THE BACK OF HER NECK AGAIN...
SHE MUST BE HOT.
PLIP
AH...
PLIP
PLIP
IT'S RAINING...

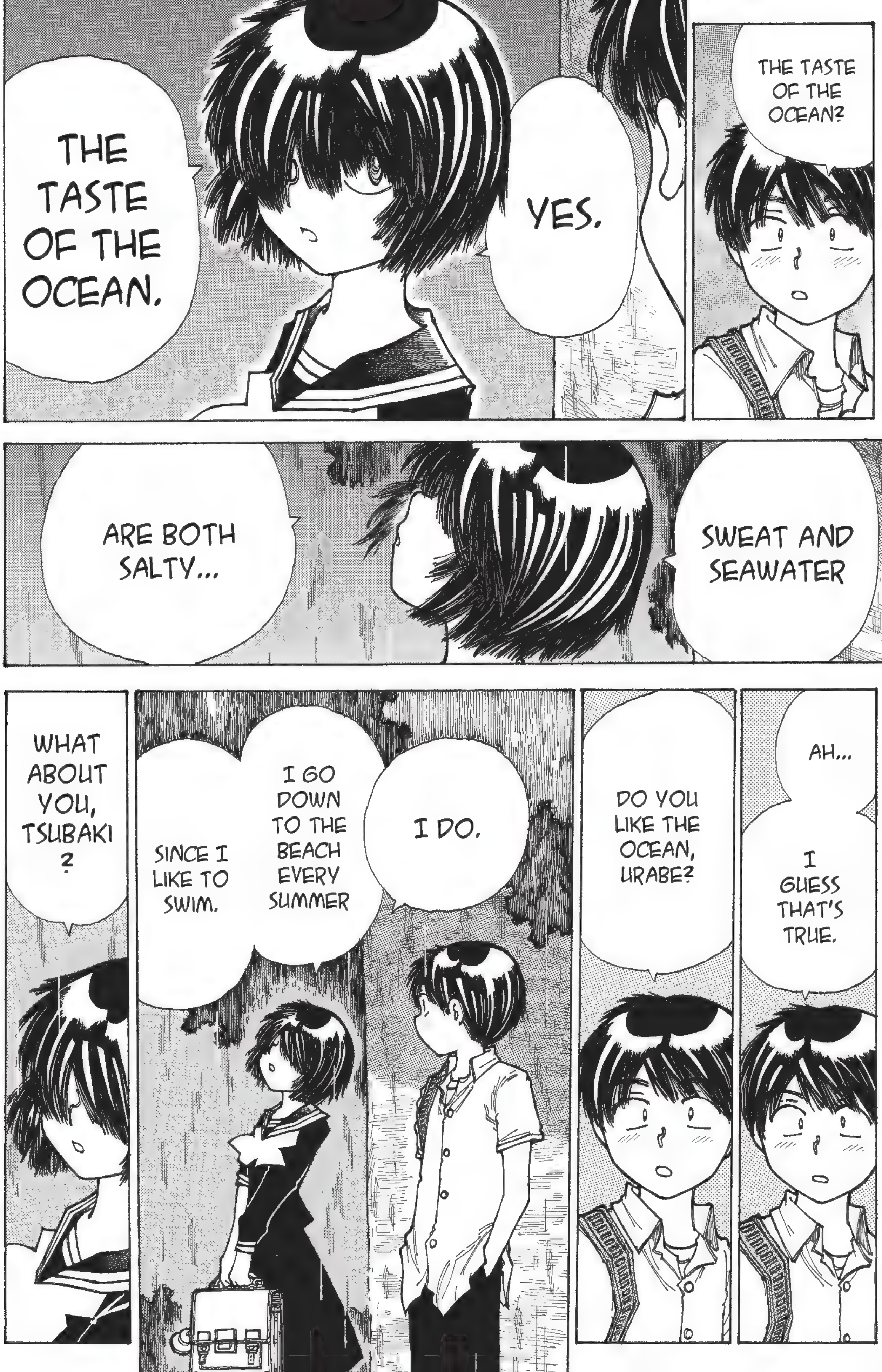

ザーーーッ
SHAAAAAA
I FORGOT AN UMBRELLA...
ME, TOO...
LET'S DUCK UNDER A TREE IN THE PARK FOR SHELTER.
パシャ
SPLISH
パシャ
SPLISH
THINK IT'LL STOP SOON?
NO IDEA...

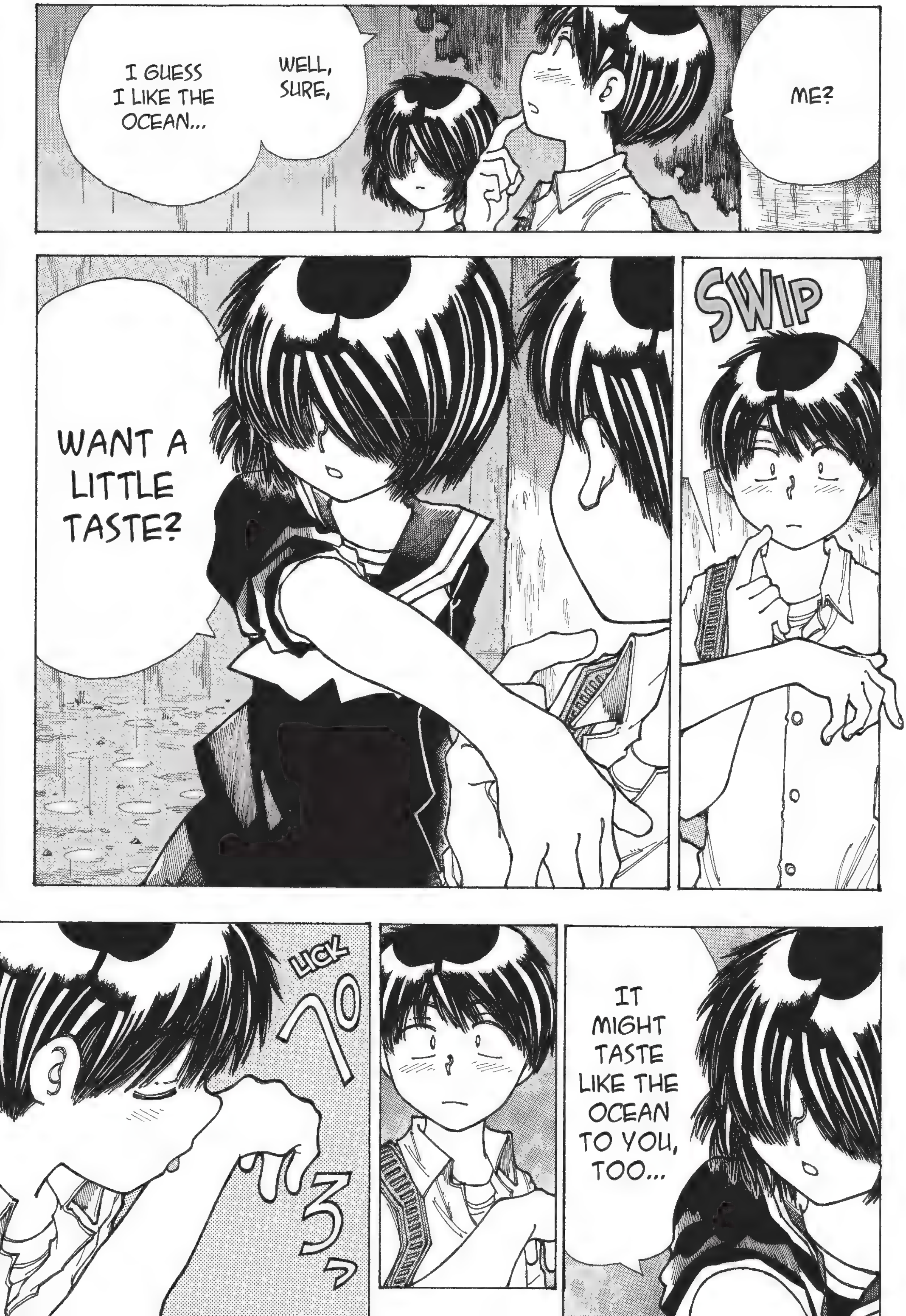

DRIP
DRIP
DROP
DRIP
DROP
PRESS
DRIP
DROP
...
SHELTERING FROM THE RAIN ISN'T SO BAD NOW AND THEN...
WHEN WE'RE CLOSE TOGETHER LIKE THIS...

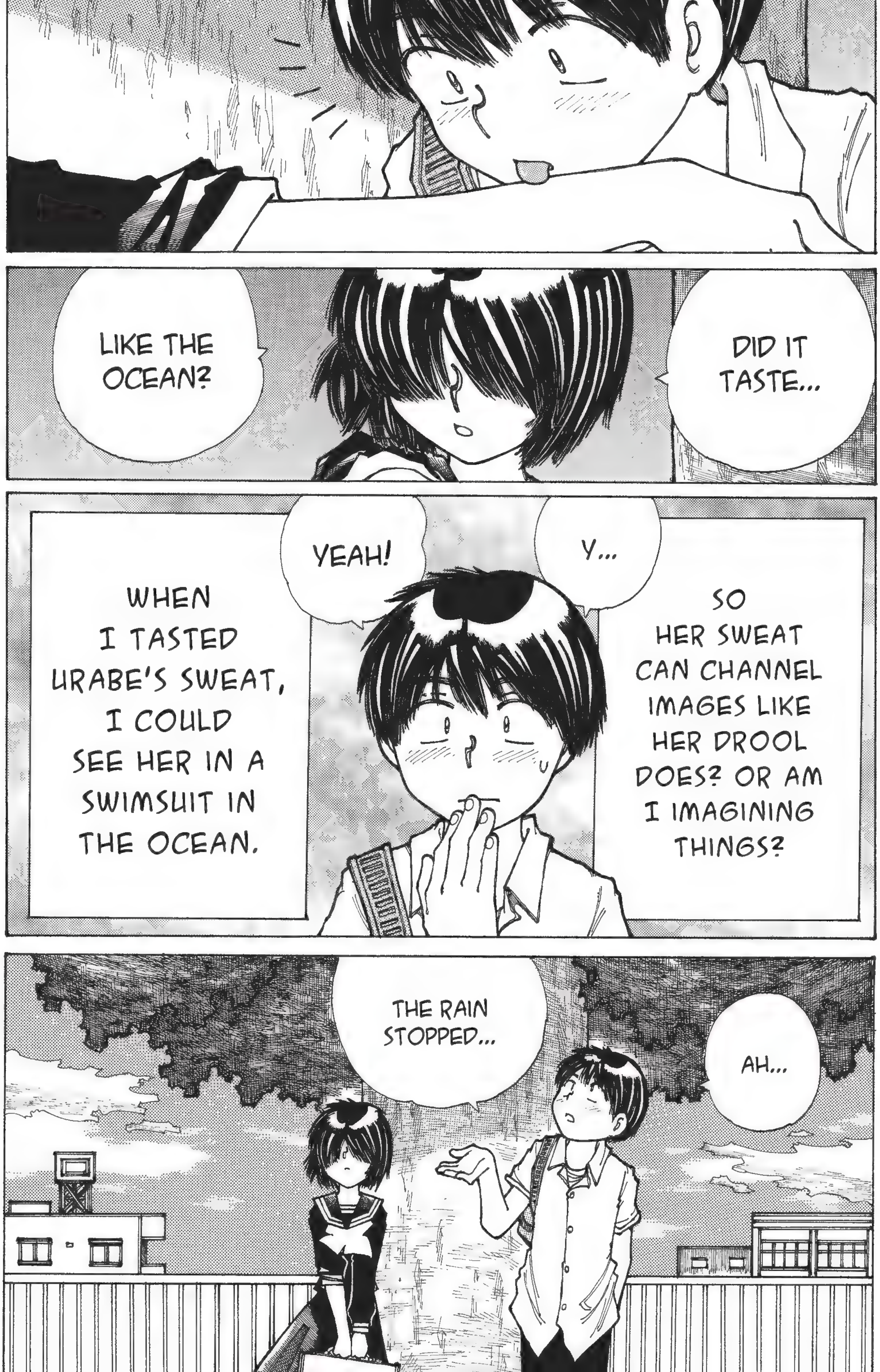

URABE...
SMELLS REALLY NICE...
ABC LIFE
URABE ...
WHAT?
ARE YOU WEARING PERFUME TODAY?
PERFUME?
I DON'T USE THAT STUFF.
WELL ...
YOU SMELL REALLY NICE TODAY, SO I THOUGHT...
I SMELL NICE?
SNIFF SNIFF

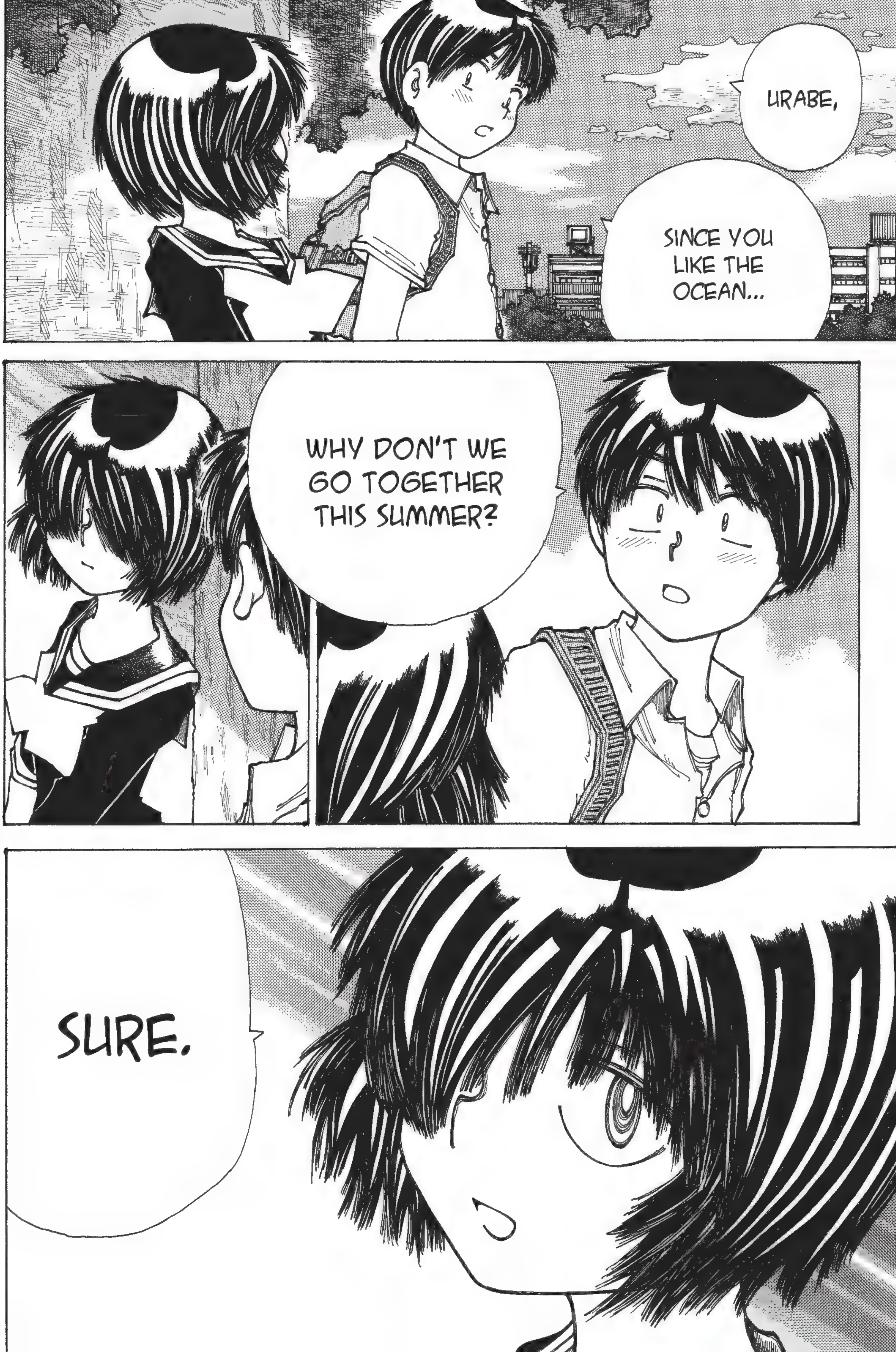

ARE YOU SURE IT'S NOT JUST MY SWEAT?
I'M SWEATING RIGHT NOW...
TUG
グッ
LICK
SALTY...

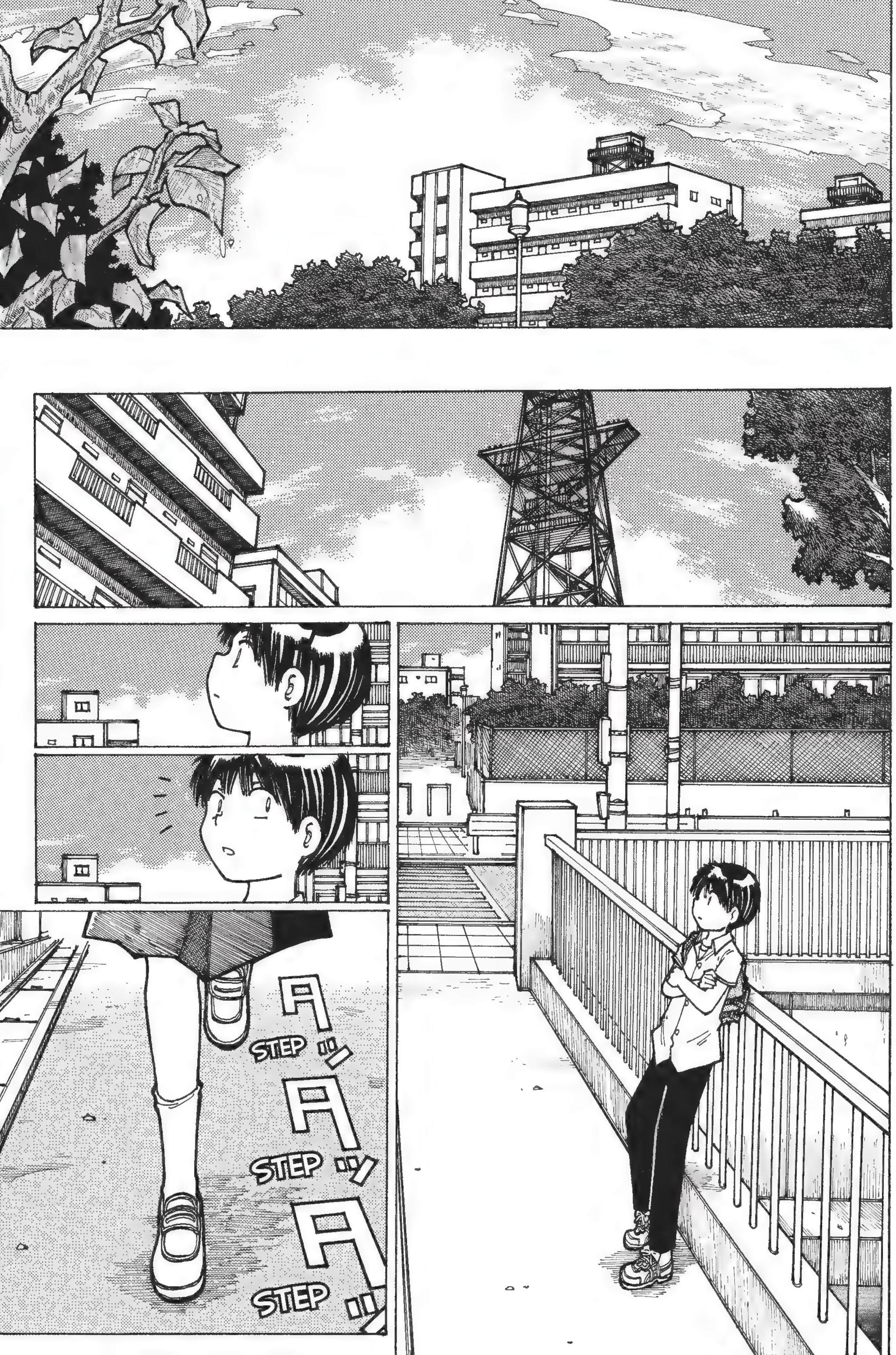

I DON'T THINK
IT SMELLS THAT NICE...
OH...
REALLY?
HA-HA-HA...
BUT...
THAT...
REMINDED ME OF "THAT" TASTE.
"THAT" TASTE?
WHAT TASTE?
THE TASTE OF THE OCEAN.

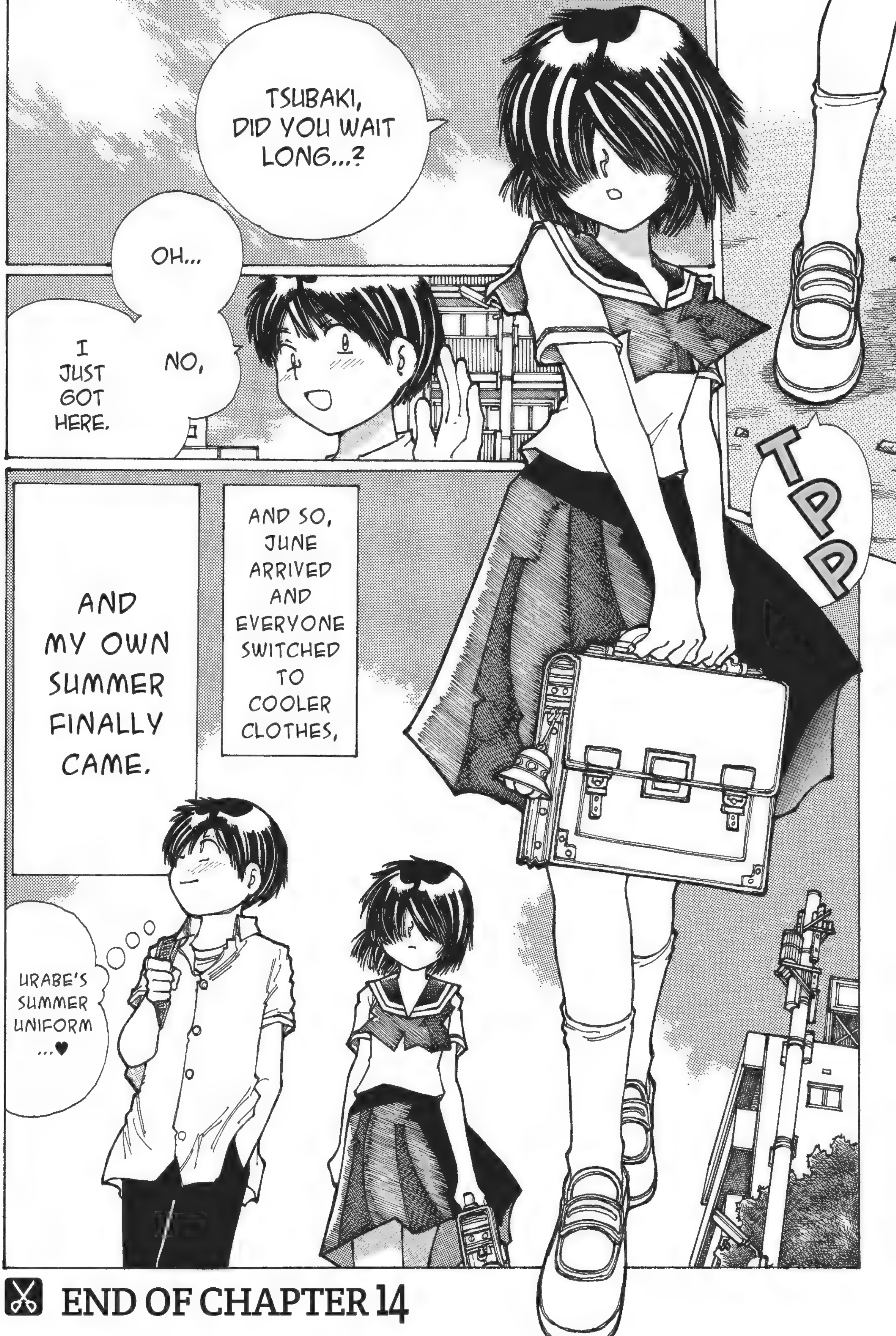

THE TASTE OF THE OCEAN?
YES.
THE TASTE OF THE OCEAN.
SWEAT AND SEAWATER
ARE BOTH SALTY...
AH...
I GUESS THAT'S TRUE.
DO YOU LIKE THE OCEAN, URABE?
I DO.
I GO DOWN TO THE BEACH EVERY SUMMER
SINCE I LIKE TO SWIM.
WHAT ABOUT YOU, TSUBAKI?


ME?
WELL, SURE,
I GUESS I LIKE THE OCEAN...
SWIP
WANT A LITTLE TASTE?
IT MIGHT TASTE LIKE THE OCEAN TO YOU, TOO...
LICK


DID IT TASTE...
LIKE THE OCEAN?
Y...
YEAH!
WHEN I TASTED URABE'S SWEAT, I COULD SEE HER IN A SWIMSUIT IN THE OCEAN.
SO HER SWEAT CAN CHANNEL IMAGES LIKE HER DROOL DOES? OR AM I IMAGINING THINGS?
AH...
THE RAIN STOPPED...

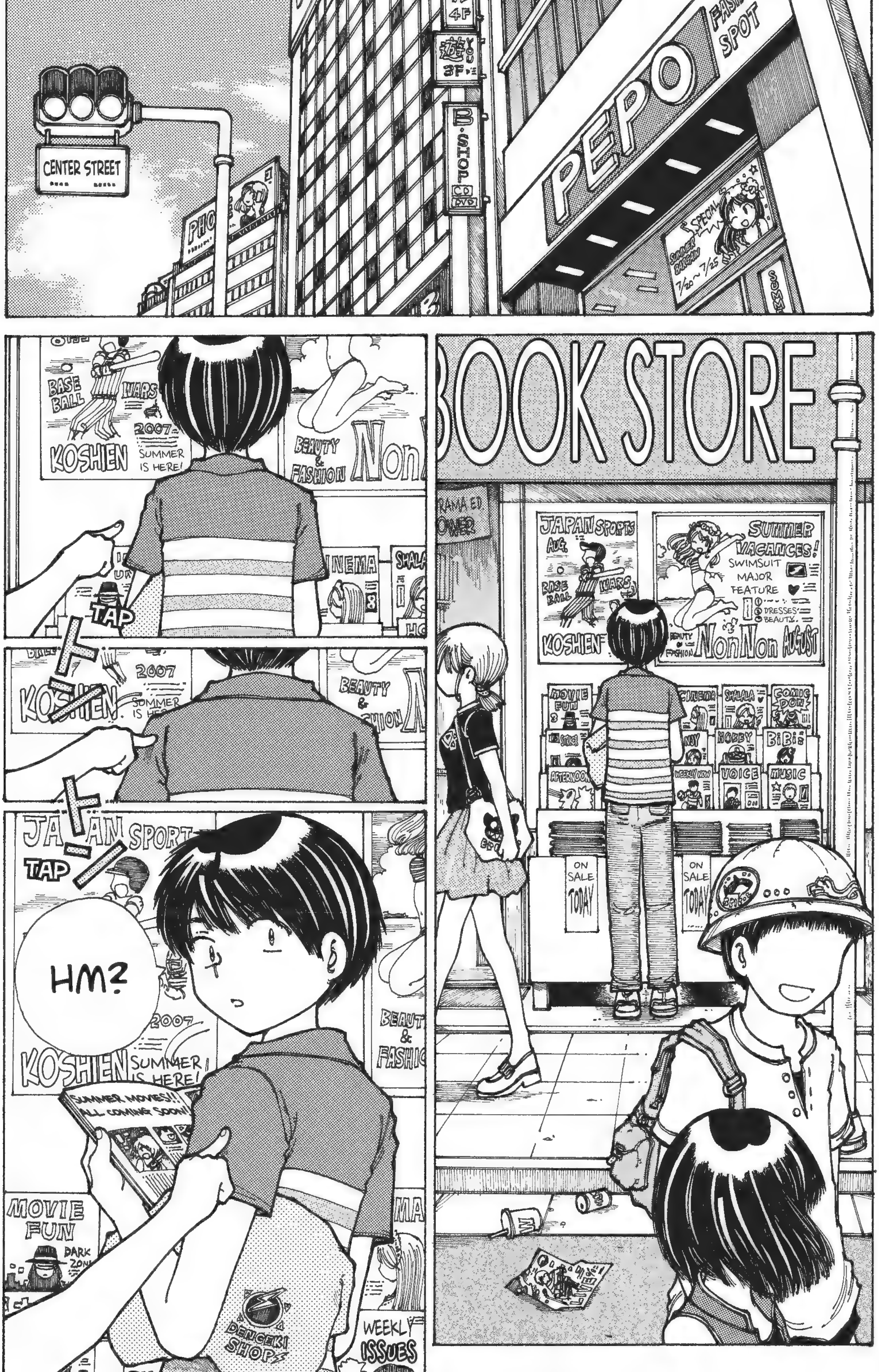

URABE,
SINCE YOU LIKE THE OCEAN...
WHY DON'T WE GO TOGETHER THIS SUMMER?
SURE.

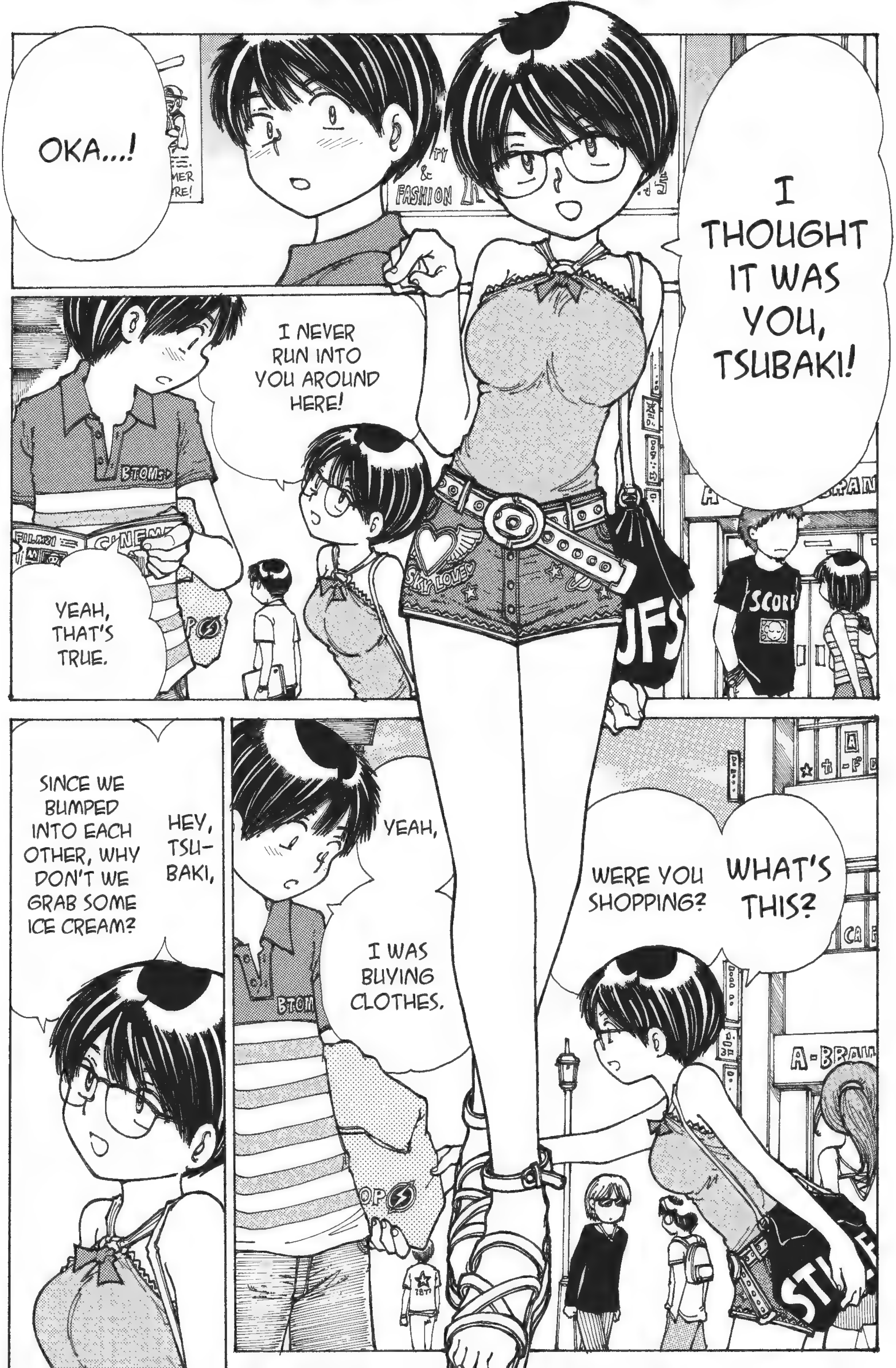

タッ
STEP
タッ
STEP
タッ
STEP

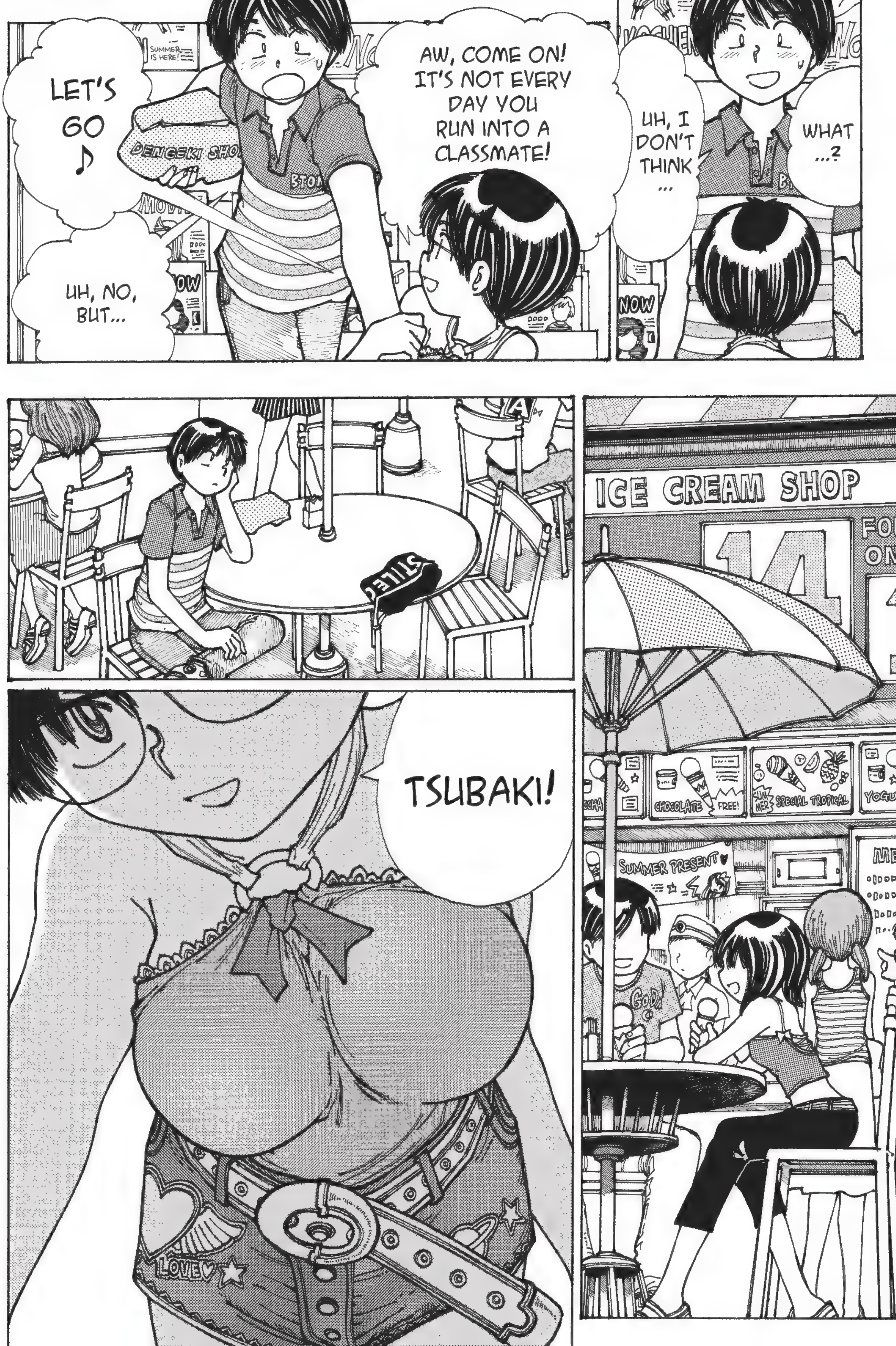

TSUBAKI, DID YOU WAIT LONG...?
TPP
OH...
NO,
I JUST GOT HERE.
AND SO, JUNE ARRIVED AND EVERYONE SWITCHED TO COOLER CLOTHES,
AND MY OWN SUMMER FINALLY CAME.
URABE'S SUMMER UNIFORM ...♥

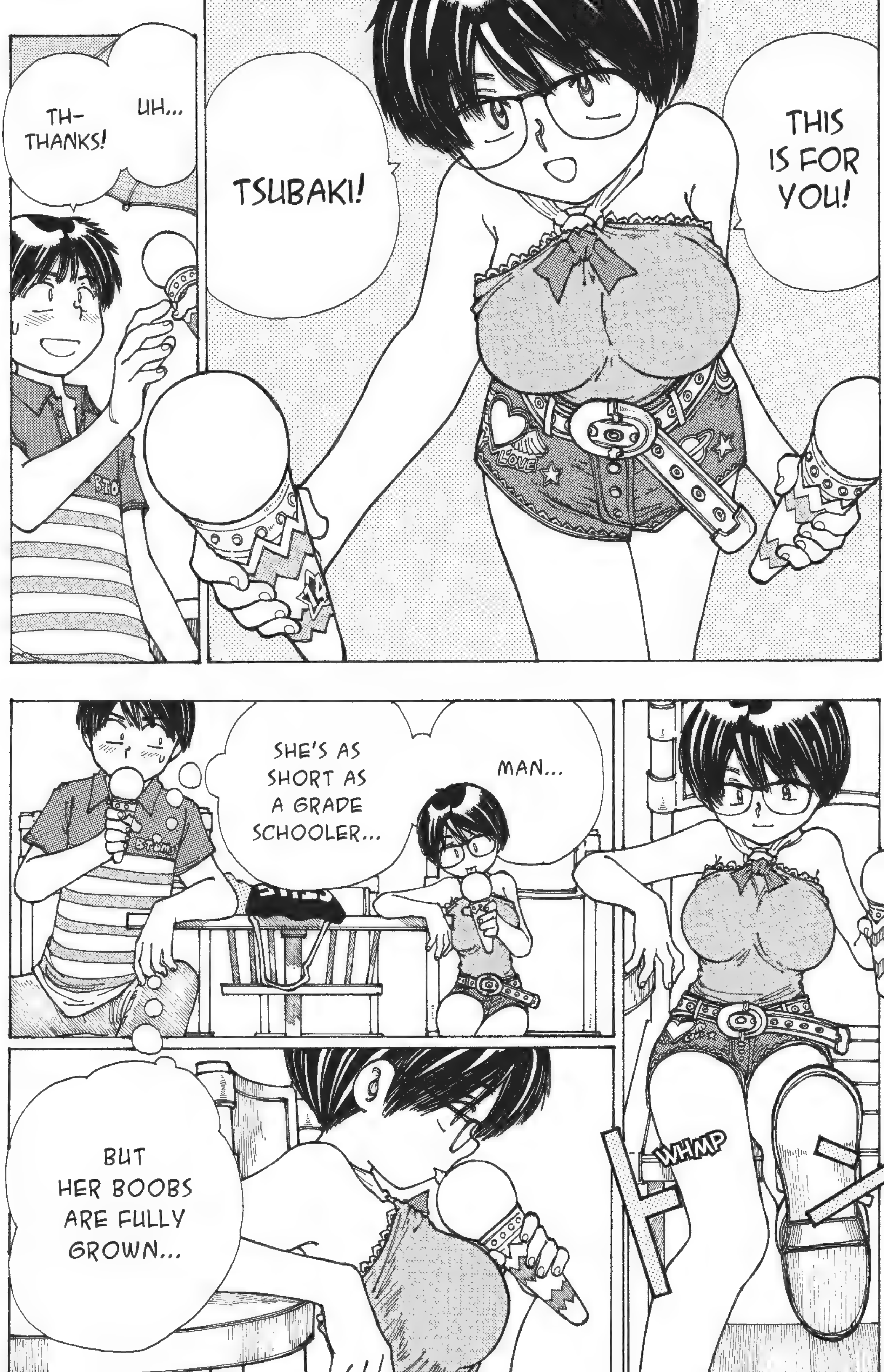
END OF CHAPTER 14

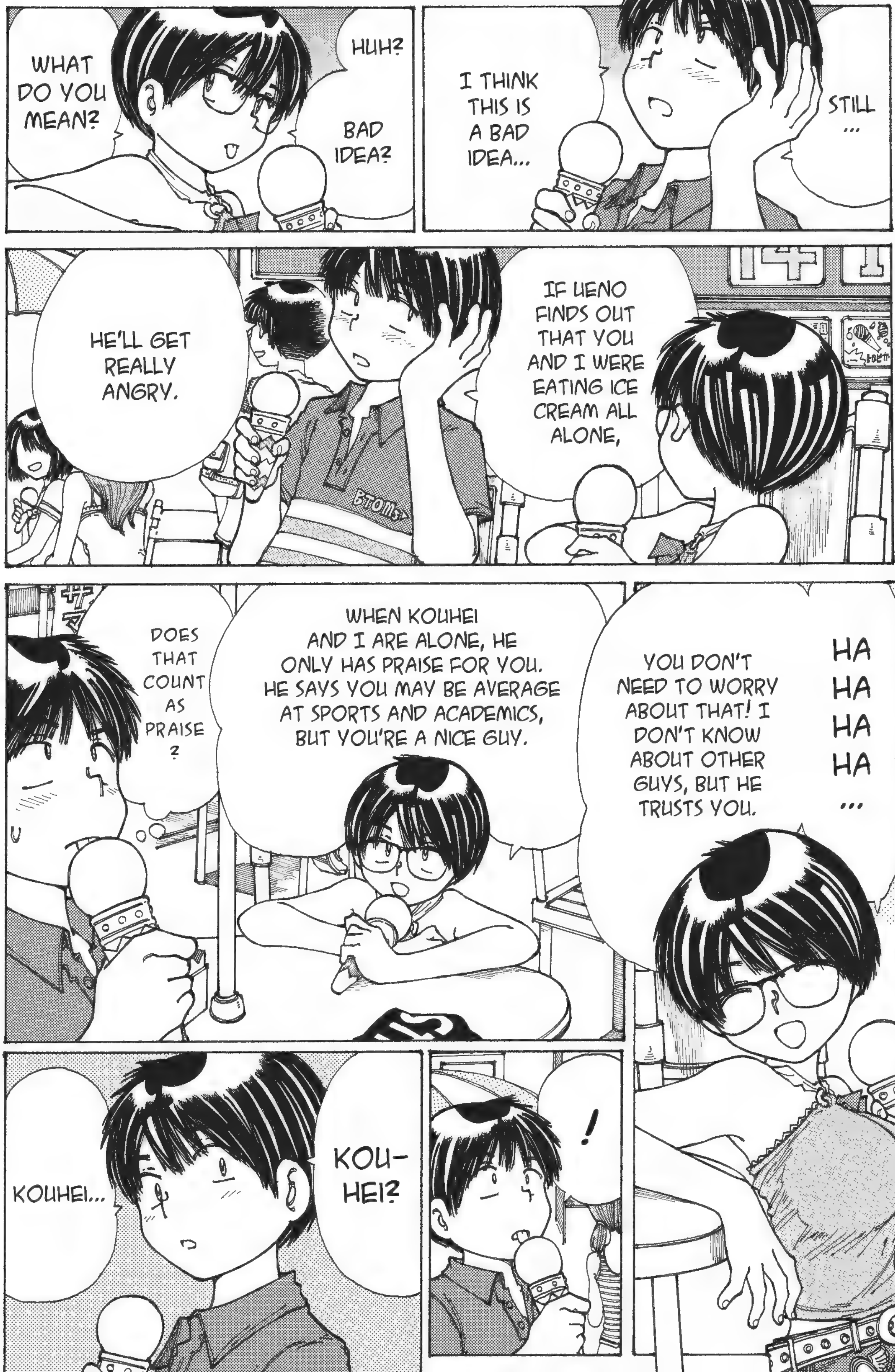
CHAPTER 15: MYSTERIOUS STEP UP

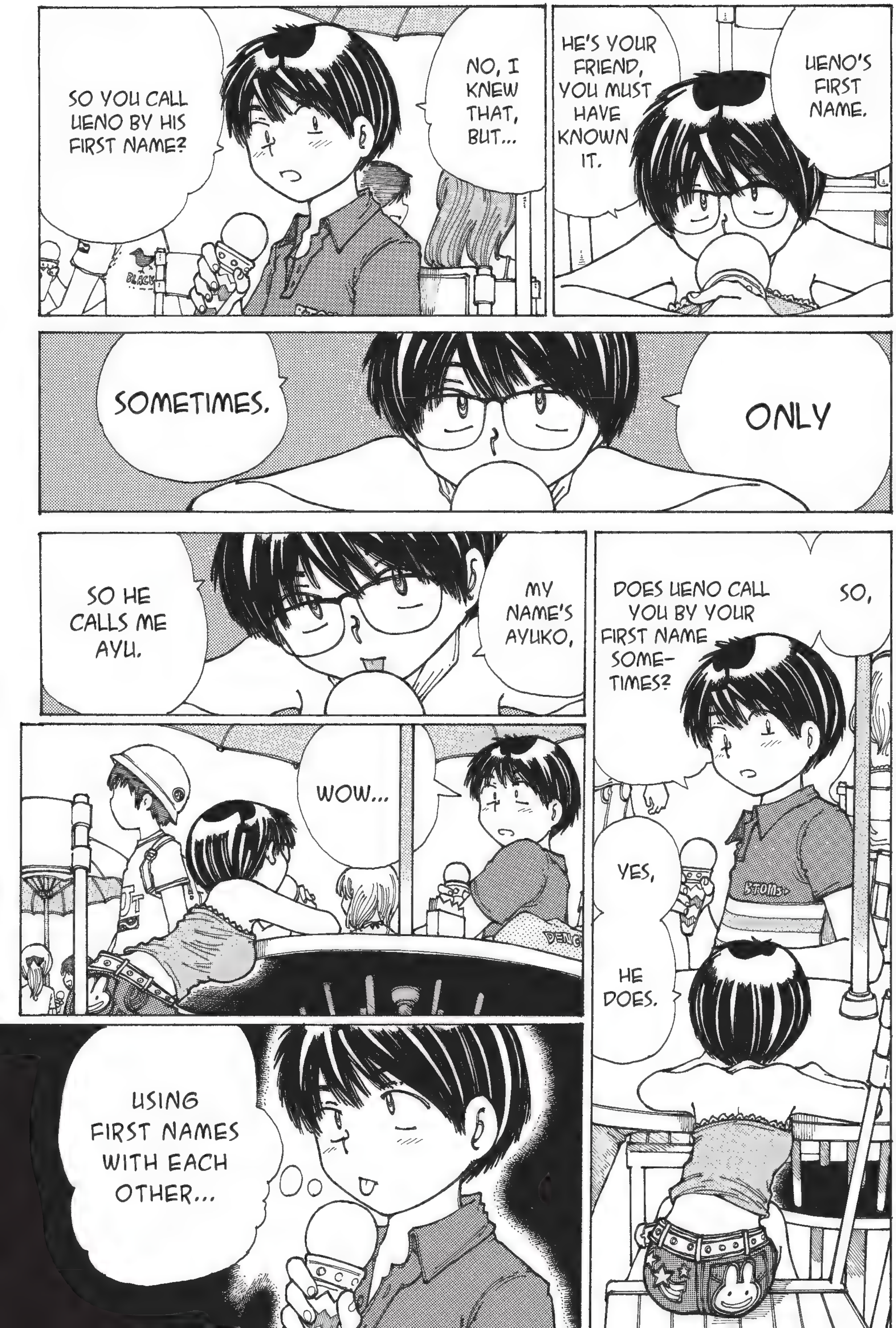

CENTER STREET
PHO
4F
遊 YOU 3F
B・SHOP CD DVD
PEPO
FASHI SPOT
SPECIAL SUMMER BARGAIN 7/20~7/25
SUMM
BOOK STORE
RAMA ED OWER
JAPAN SPORTS AUG. BASE BALL WARS KOSHIEN
SUMMER VACANCES! SWIMSUIT MAJOR FEATURE DRESSES BEAUTY
BEAUTY & FASHION NonNon AUGUST
MOVIE FUN
CINEMA
SHALALA
COMIC DON
HOBBY
BiBi
AFTERNOON
WEEKLY NOW
VOICE
MUSIC
ON SALE TODAY
ON SALE TODAY
BASE BALL WARS 2007 KOSHIEN SUMMER IS HERE!
BEAUTY & FASHION Non
INEMA
SHALA
TAP
トン
TAP
トン
JAPAN SPORT
HM?
SUMMER MOVIES!! ALL COMING SOON!
MOVIE FUN DARK ZONE
DENGEKI SHOP
WEEKLY ISSUES

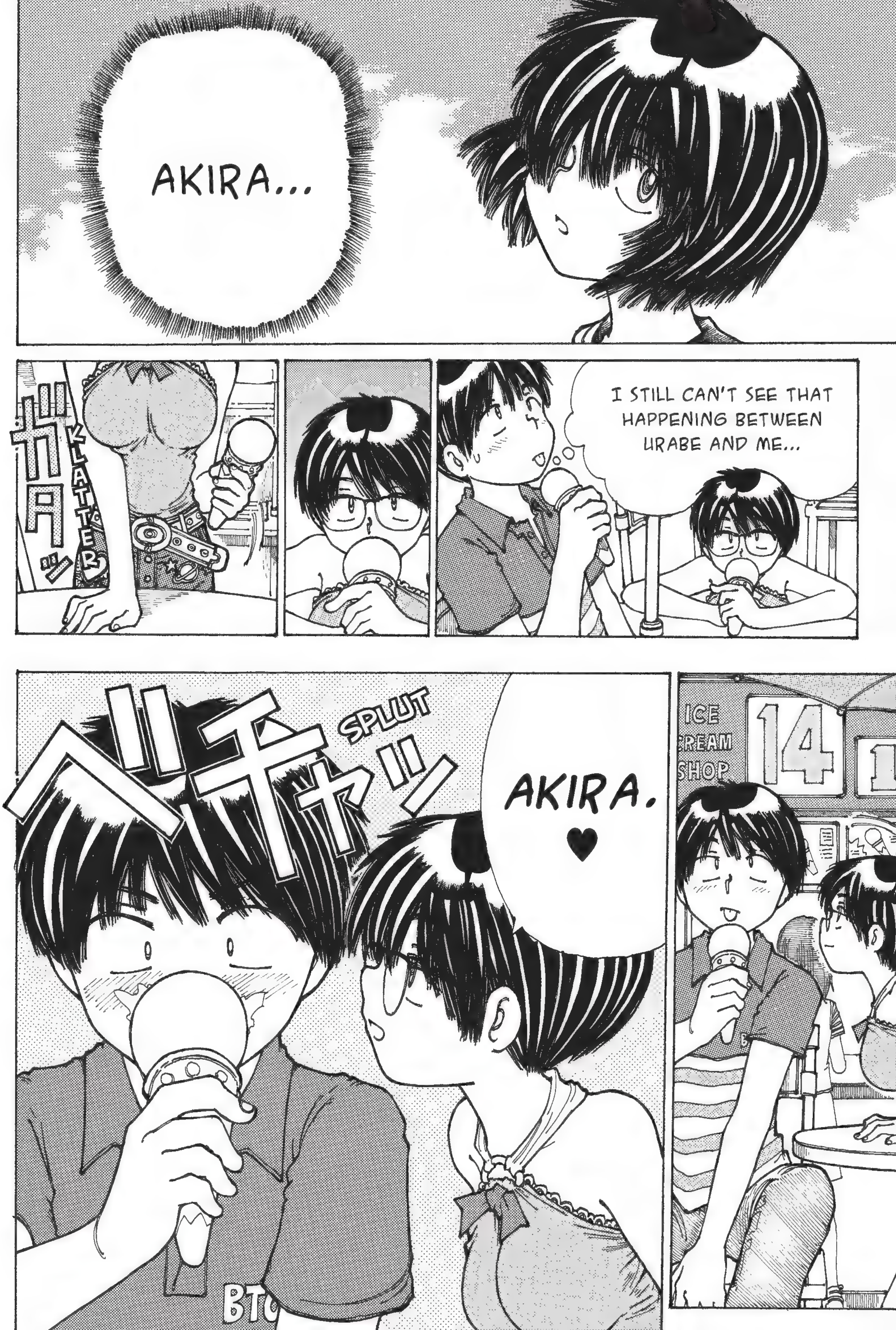

I THOUGHT IT WAS YOU, TSUBAKI!
OKA...!
I NEVER RUN INTO YOU AROUND HERE!
YEAH, THAT'S TRUE.
WHAT'S THIS?
WERE YOU SHOPPING?
YEAH,
I WAS BUYING CLOTHES.
HEY, TSUBAKI,
SINCE WE BUMPED INTO EACH OTHER, WHY DON'T WE GRAB SOME ICE CREAM?
FASHION
SKY LOVE
JFS
A-BRAIN

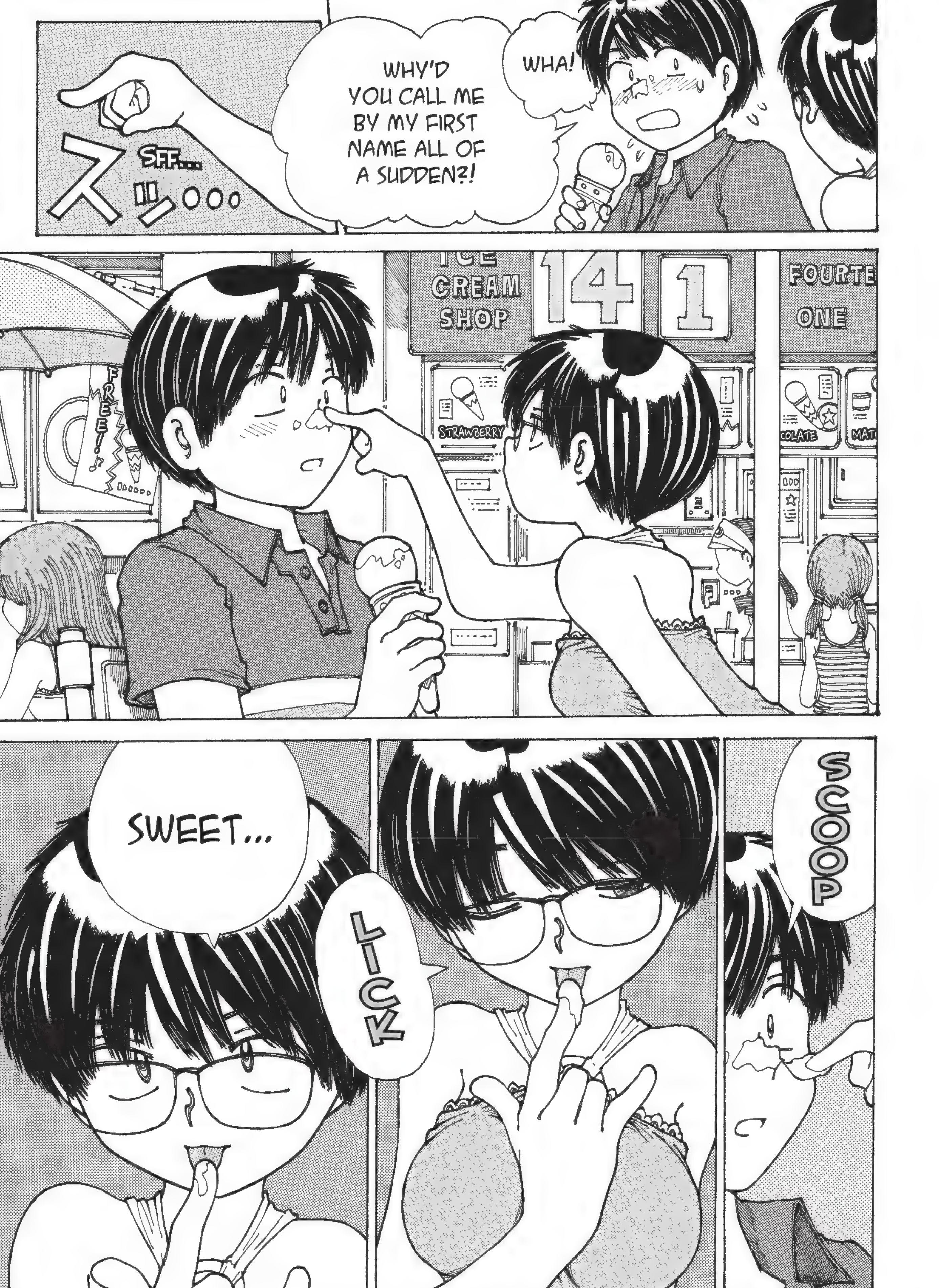

WHAT ...?
UH, I DON'T THINK ...
AW, COME ON! IT'S NOT EVERY DAY YOU RUN INTO A CLASSMATE!
SUMMER IS HERE!
LET'S GO ♪
DENGEKI SHOP
UH, NO, BUT...
ICE CREAM SHOP
14
CHOCOLATE
FREE!
SPECIAL TROPICAL
SUMMER PRESENT
TSUBAKI!
LOVE

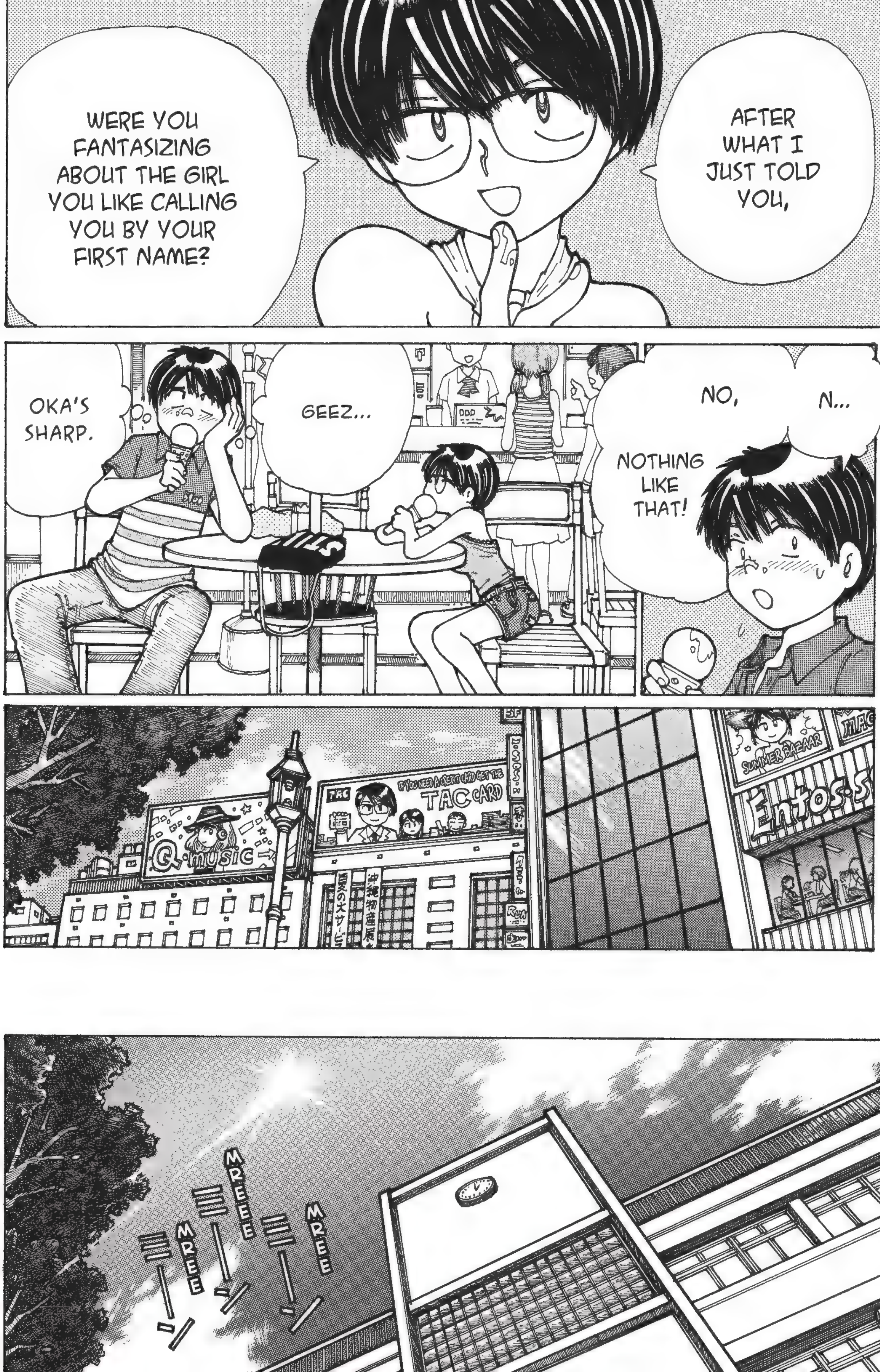

THIS IS FOR YOU!
TSUBAKI!
UH...
TH- THANKS!
WHMP
MAN...
SHE'S AS SHORT AS A GRADE SCHOOLER...
BUT HER BOOBS ARE FULLY GROWN...

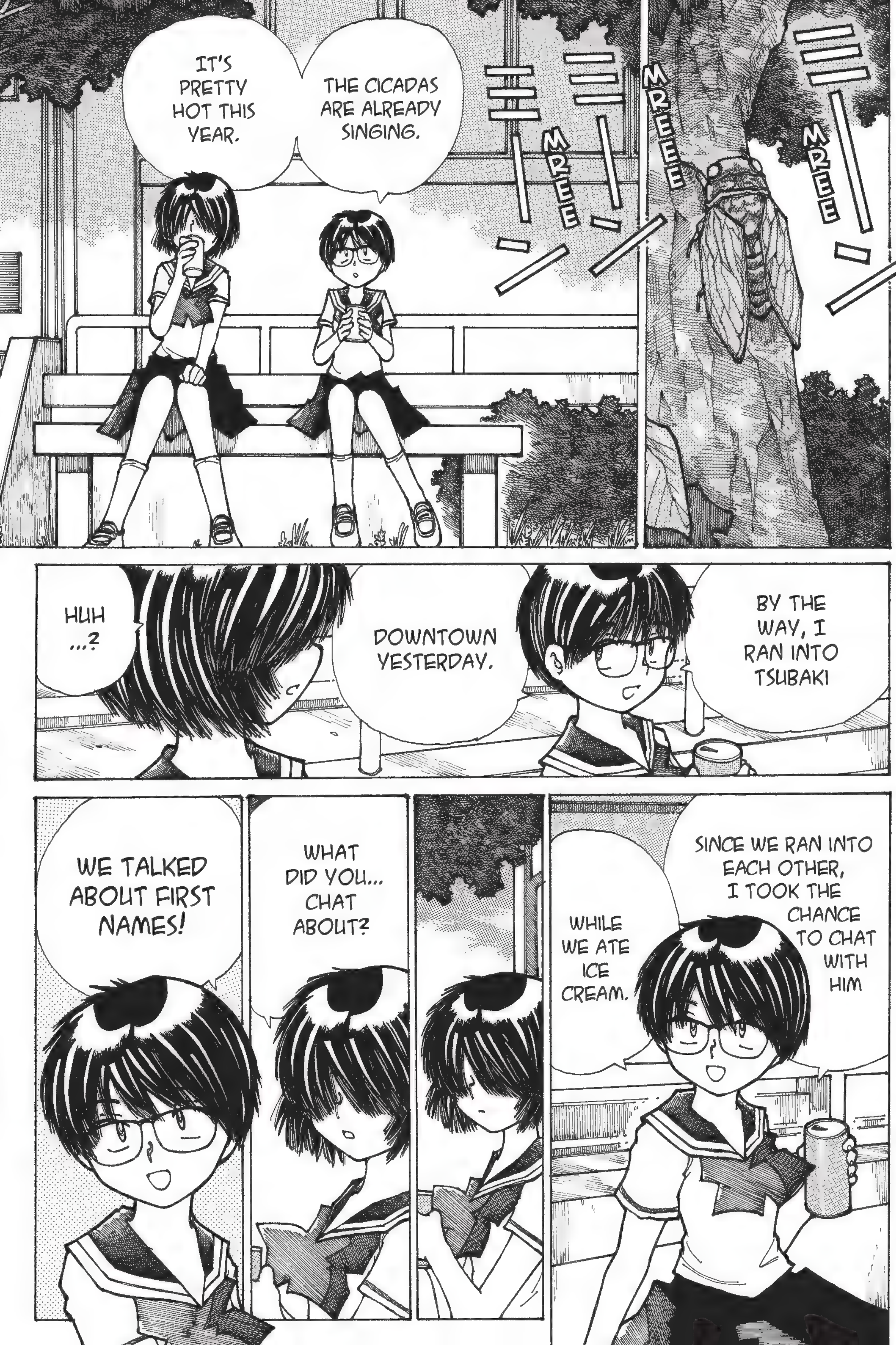

STILL ...
I THINK THIS IS A BAD IDEA...
HUH?
BAD IDEA?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
IF UENO FINDS OUT THAT YOU AND I WERE EATING ICE CREAM ALL ALONE,
HE'LL GET REALLY ANGRY.
HA HA HA HA ...
YOU DON'T NEED TO WORRY ABOUT THAT! I DON'T KNOW ABOUT OTHER GUYS, BUT HE TRUSTS YOU.
WHEN KOUHEI AND I ARE ALONE, HE ONLY HAS PRAISE FOR YOU. HE SAYS YOU MAY BE AVERAGE AT SPORTS AND ACADEMICS, BUT YOU'RE A NICE GUY.
DOES THAT COUNT AS PRAISE?
!
KOU-HEI?
KOUHEI...

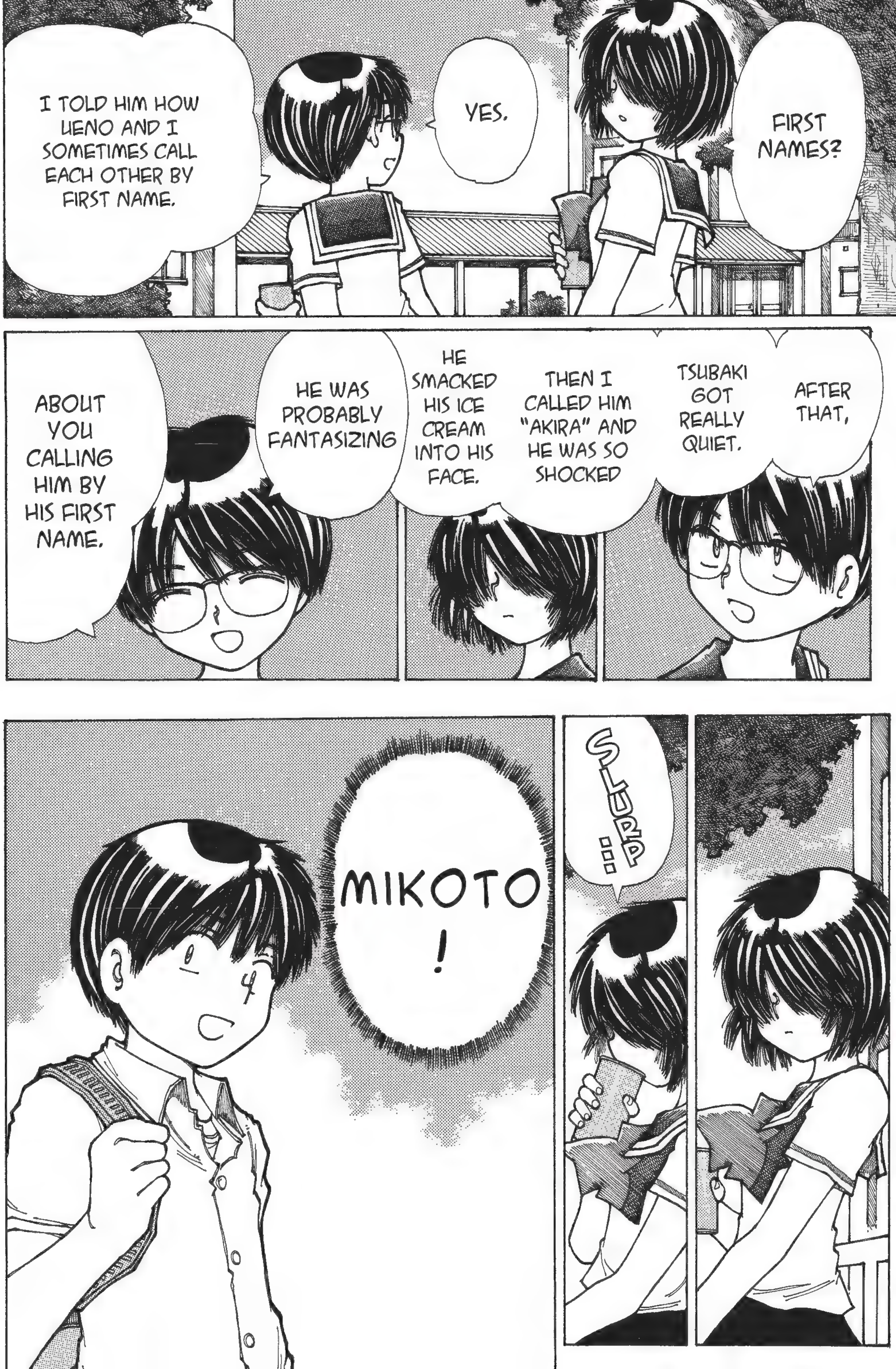

UENO'S FIRST NAME.
HE'S YOUR FRIEND, YOU MUST HAVE KNOWN IT.
NO, I KNEW THAT, BUT...
SO YOU CALL UENO BY HIS FIRST NAME?
ONLY
SOMETIMES.
SO,
DOES UENO CALL YOU BY YOUR FIRST NAME SOMETIMES?
YES,
HE DOES.
MY NAME'S AYUKO,
SO HE CALLS ME AYU.
WOW...
USING FIRST NAMES WITH EACH OTHER...
BLACK
TOMS
DENG

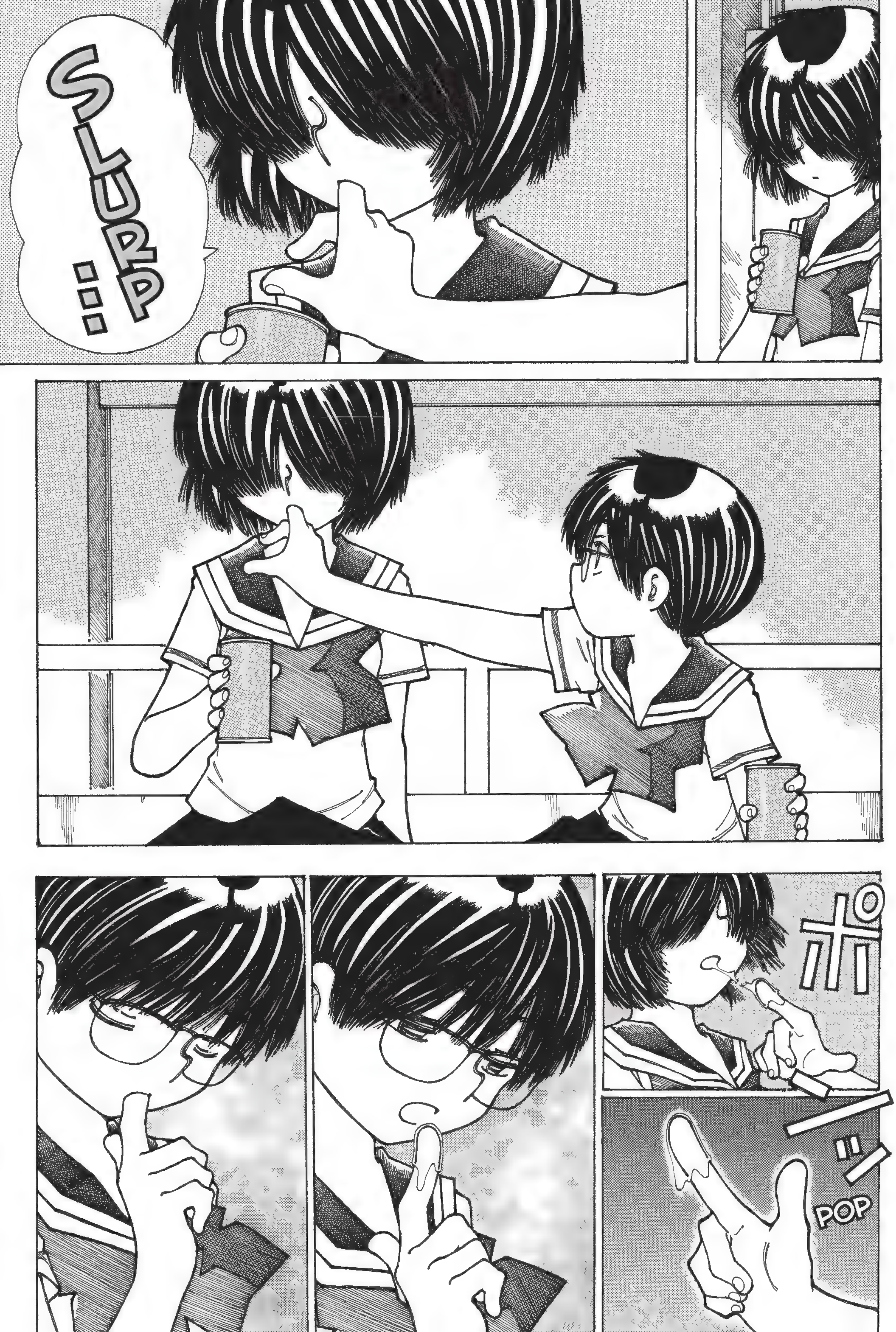

AKIRA...
I STILL CAN'T SEE THAT HAPPENING BETWEEN URABE AND ME...
ガタッ
KLATTER
ICE CREAM SHOP
14
AKIRA. ♥
ベッチャッ
SPLUT
BTC

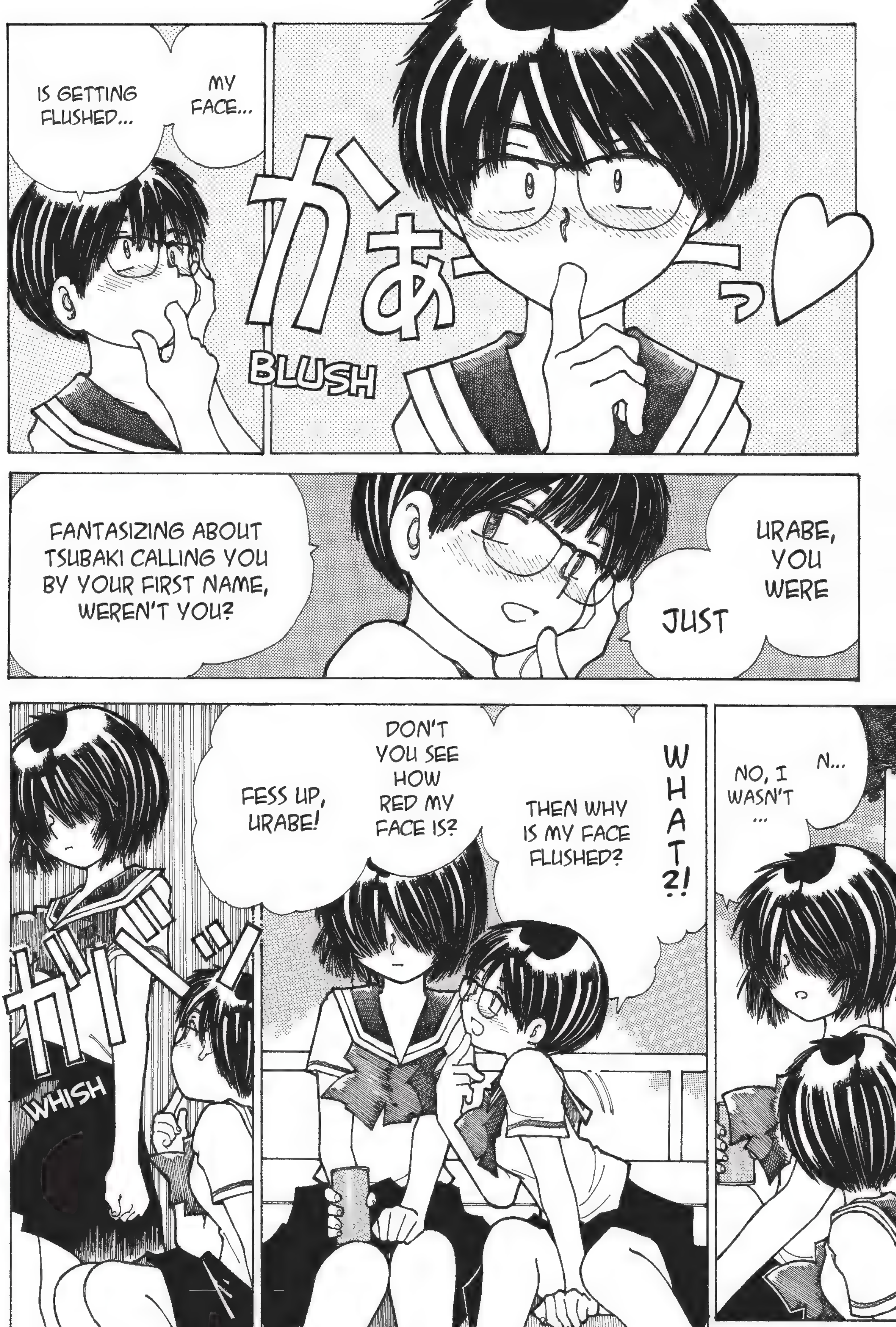

WHA!
WHY'D YOU CALL ME BY MY FIRST NAME ALL OF A SUDDEN?!
スッ ooo
SFF...
ICE CREAM SHOP
14
1
FOURTE
ONE
STRAWBERRY
COLATE
MATC
FREE!
SCOOP
LICK
SWEET...

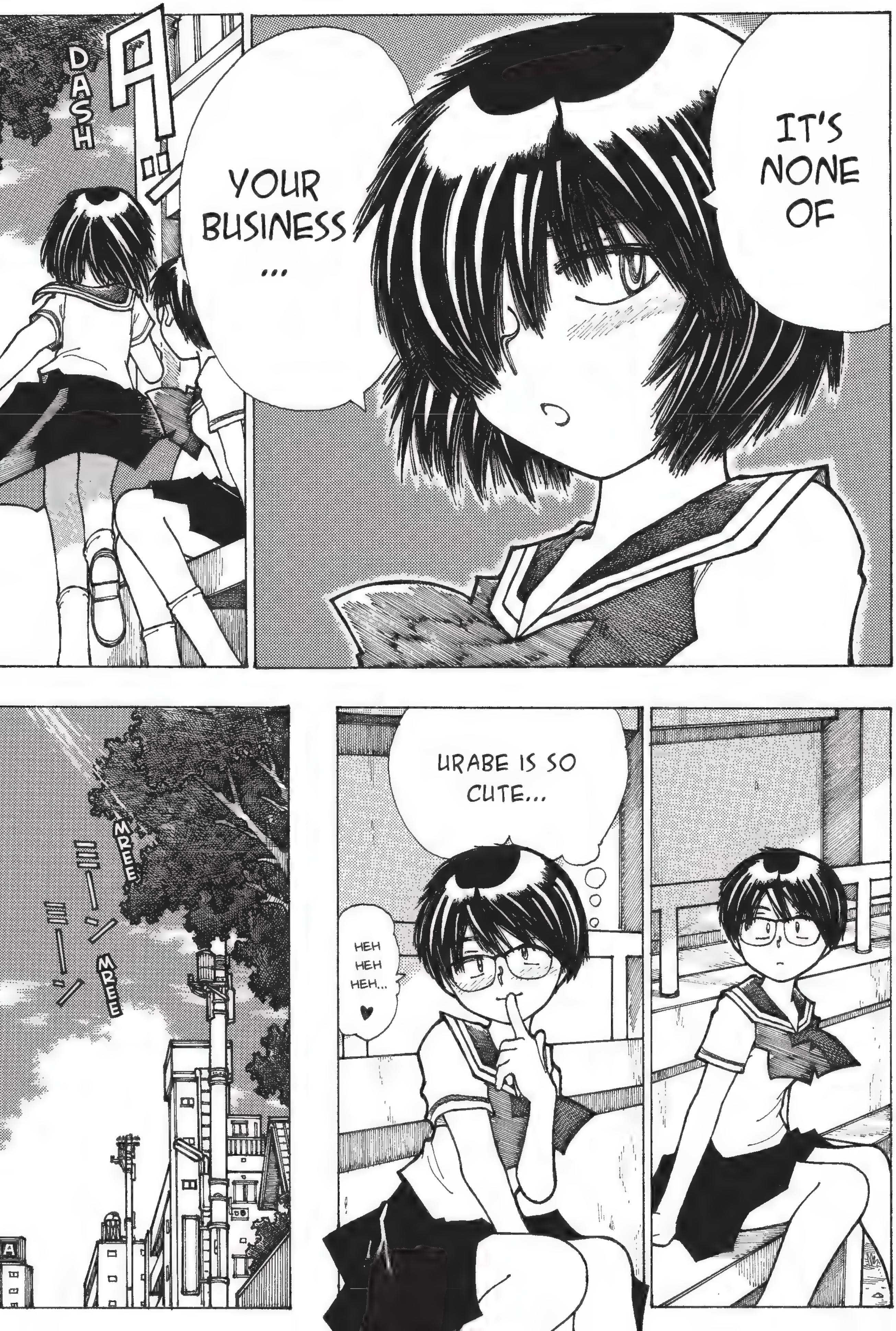

AFTER WHAT I JUST TOLD YOU,
WERE YOU FANTASIZING ABOUT THE GIRL YOU LIKE CALLING YOU BY YOUR FIRST NAME?
NO, N... NOTHING LIKE THAT!
GEEZ...
OKA'S SHARP.
SUMMER BAZAAR
Entos
TAC
IF YOU NEED A CREDIT CARD GET THE TAC CARD
沖縄物産展
Q music
MREEE
MREE
MREE
MREE

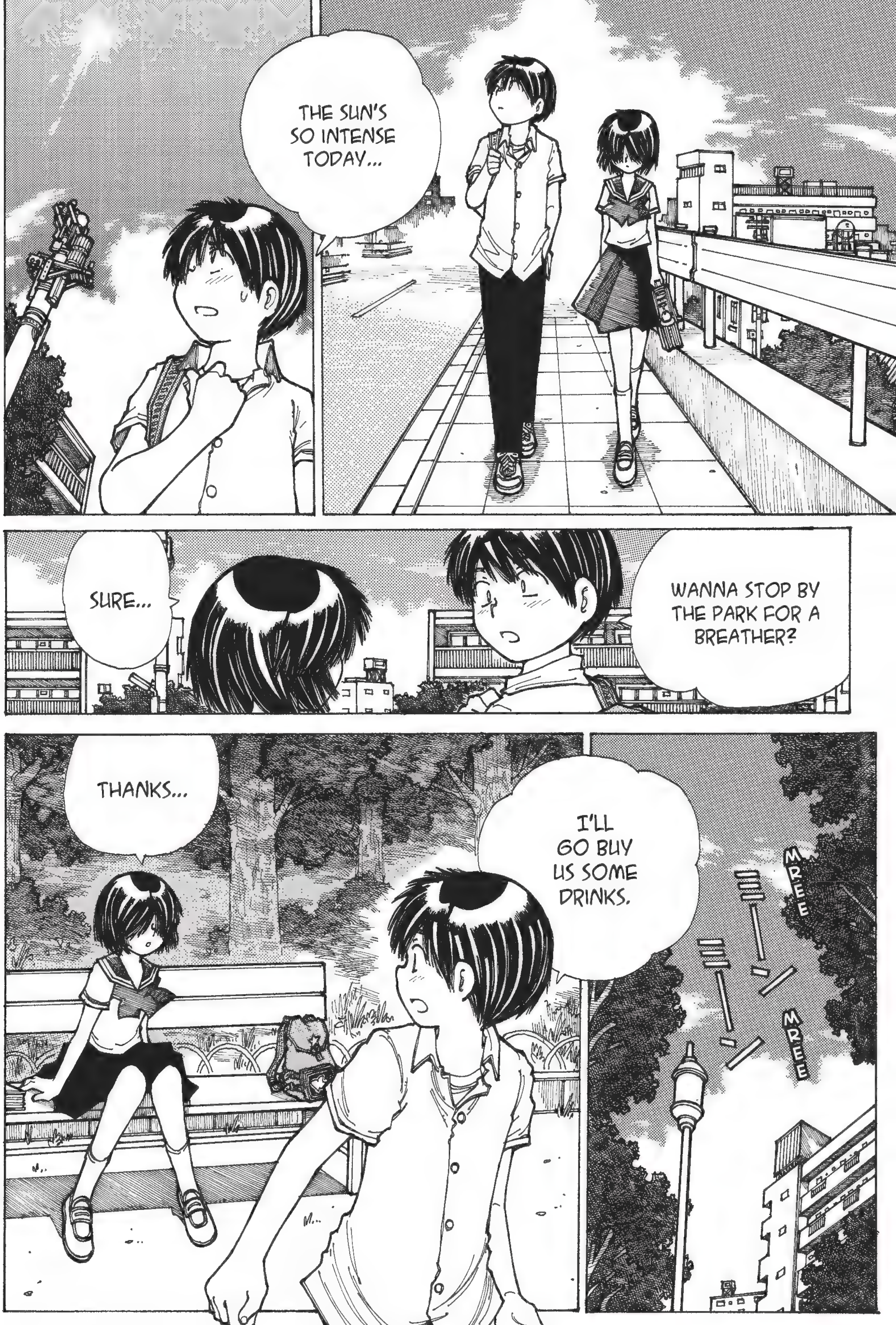

MREEE
MREEE
MREE
THE CICADAS ARE ALREADY SINGING.
IT'S PRETTY HOT THIS YEAR.
BY THE WAY, I RAN INTO TSUBAKI
DOWNTOWN YESTERDAY.
HUH ...?
SINCE WE RAN INTO EACH OTHER, I TOOK THE CHANCE TO CHAT WITH HIM
WHILE WE ATE ICE CREAM.
WHAT DID YOU... CHAT ABOUT?
WE TALKED ABOUT FIRST NAMES!

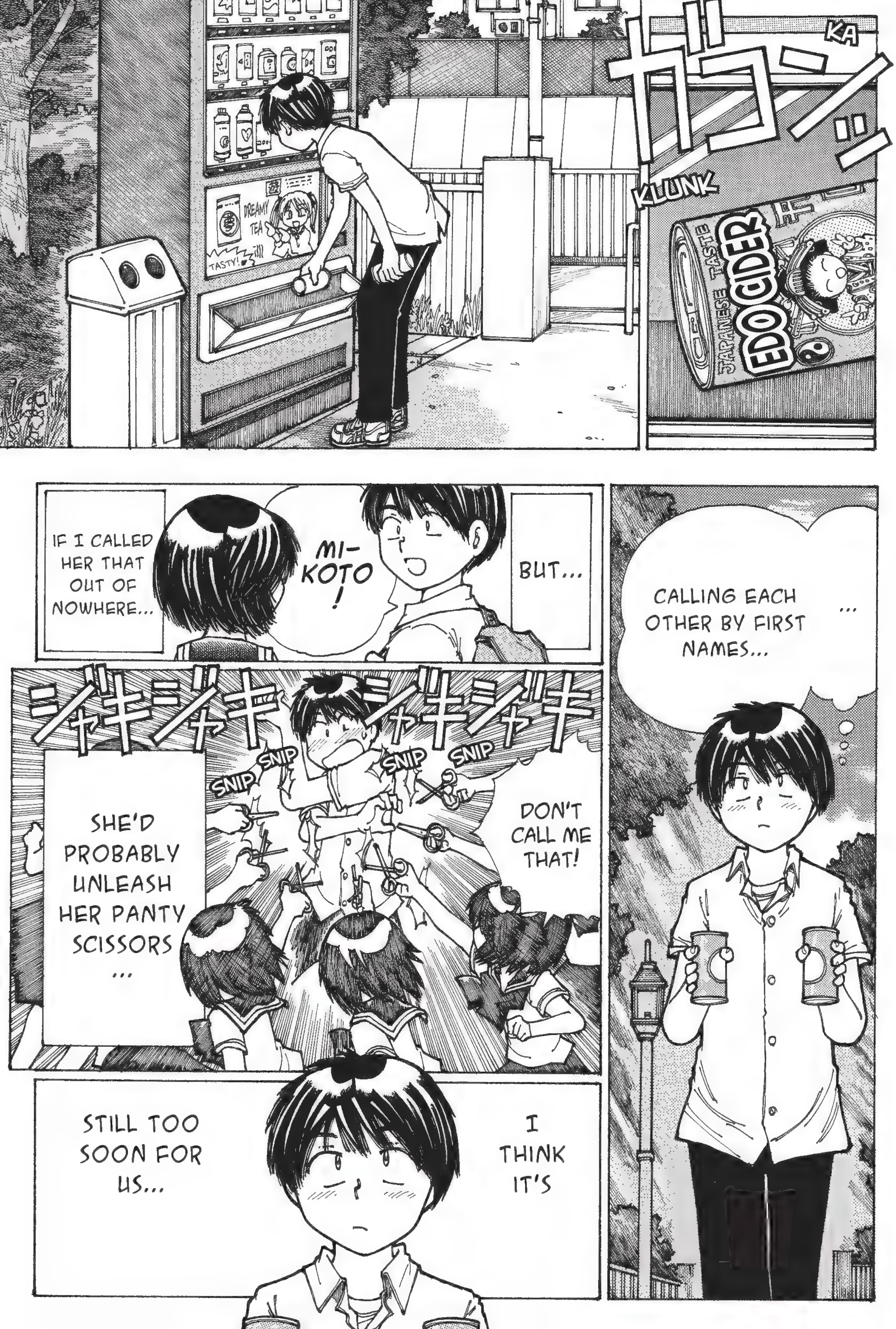

FIRST NAMES?
YES.
I TOLD HIM HOW UENO AND I SOMETIMES CALL EACH OTHER BY FIRST NAME.
AFTER THAT,
TSUBAKI GOT REALLY QUIET.
THEN I CALLED HIM "AKIRA" AND HE WAS SO SHOCKED
HE SMACKED HIS ICE CREAM INTO HIS FACE.
HE WAS PROBABLY FANTASIZING
ABOUT YOU CALLING HIM BY HIS FIRST NAME.
SLURP...
MIKOTO!

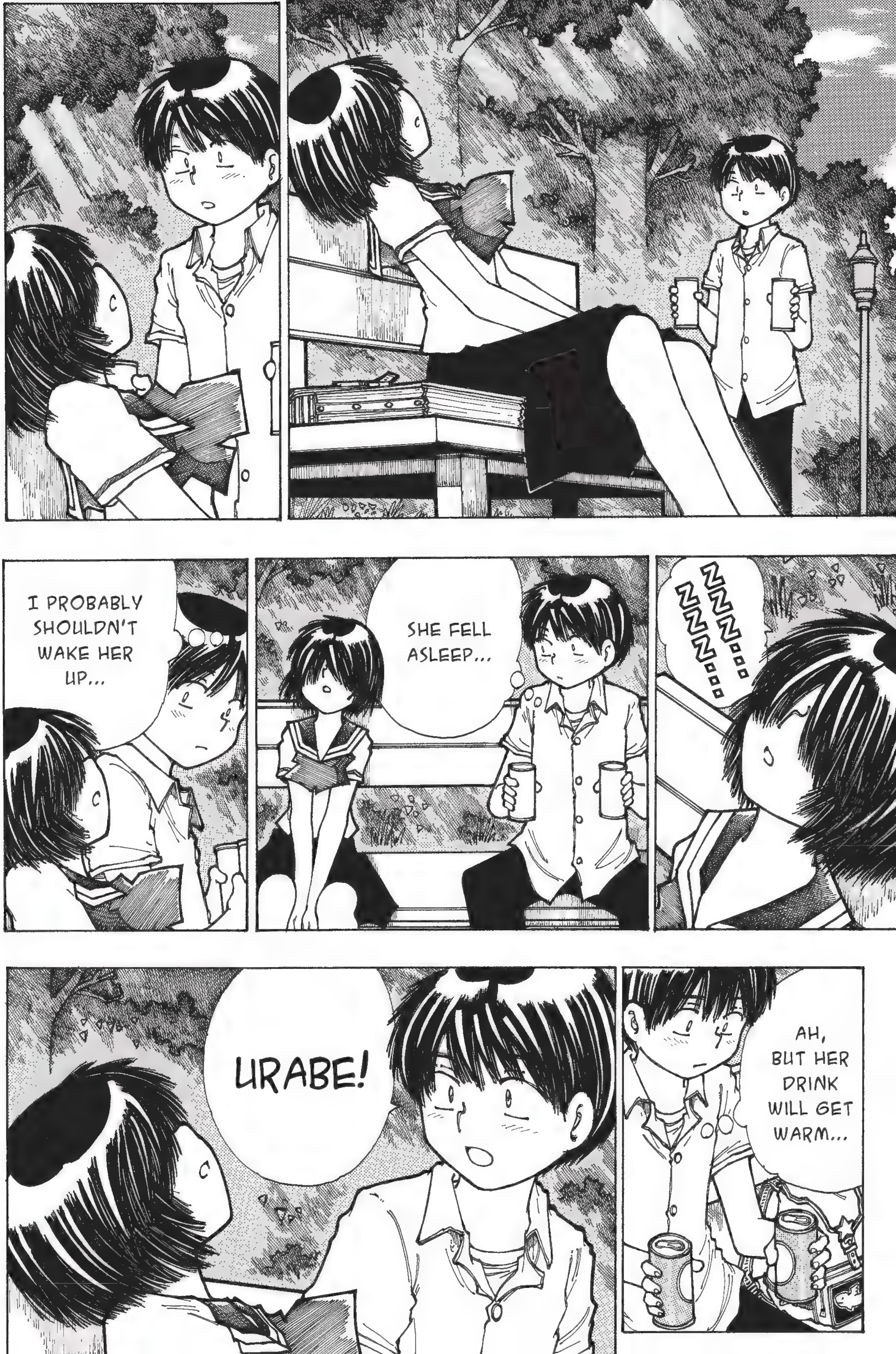

SLURP...
ポ
POP

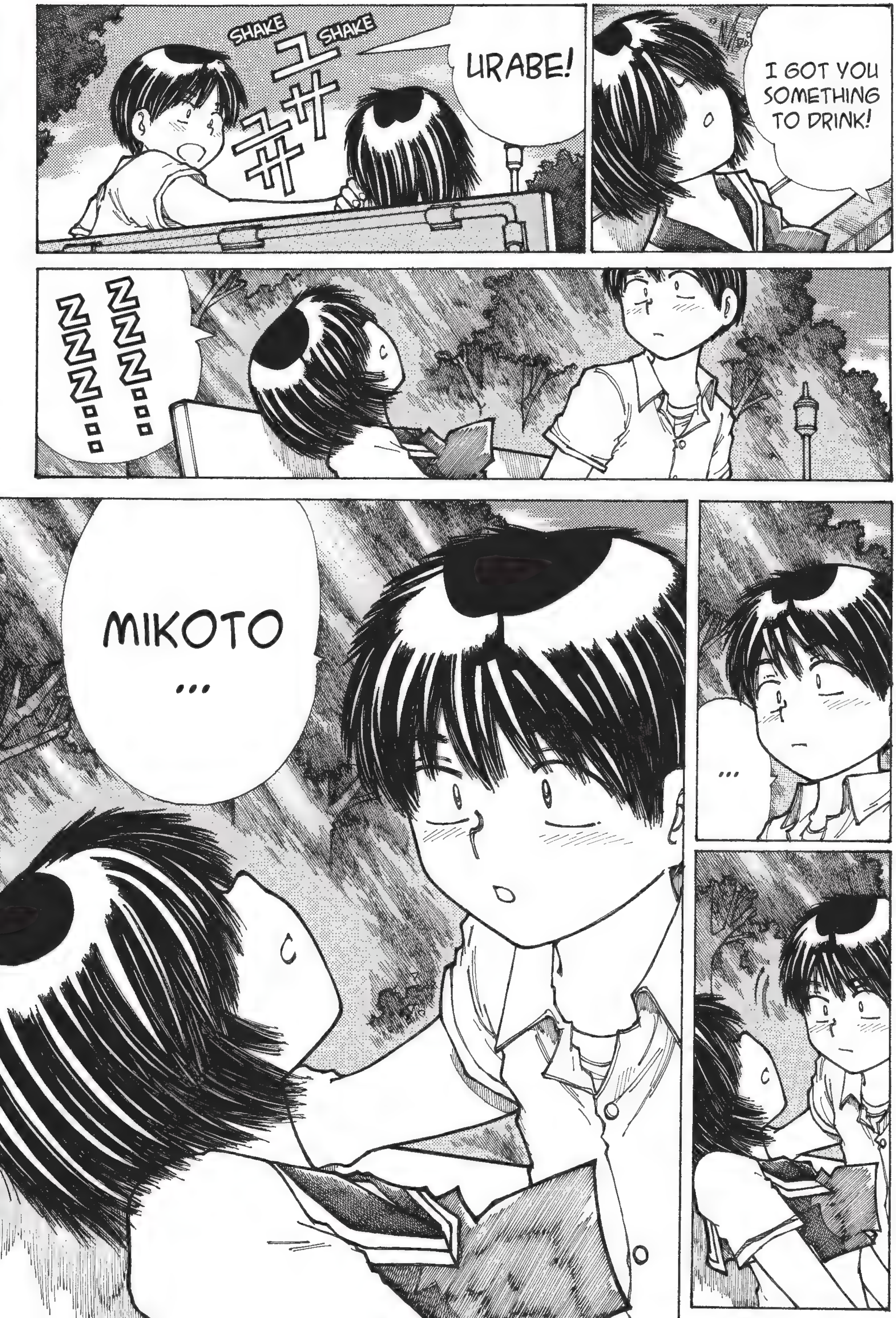

かあーっ
BLUSH
MY FACE...
IS GETTING FLUSHED...
URABE, YOU WERE JUST
FANTASIZING ABOUT TSUBAKI CALLING YOU BY YOUR FIRST NAME, WEREN'T YOU?
N...
NO, I WASN'T ...
WHAT?!
THEN WHY IS MY FACE FLUSHED?
DON'T YOU SEE HOW RED MY FACE IS?
FESS UP, URABE!
ガバッ
WHISH

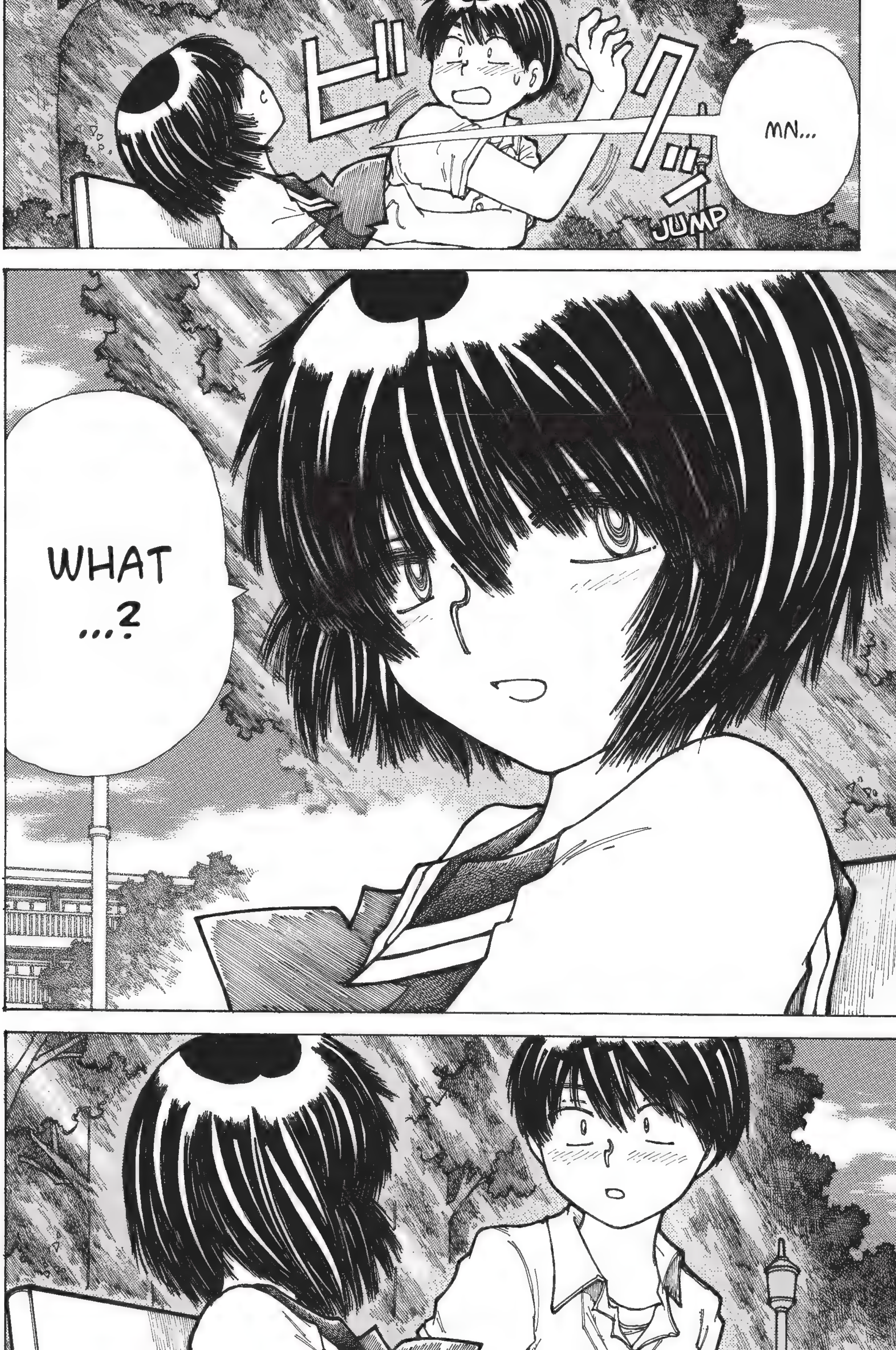

IT'S NONE OF
YOUR BUSINESS ...
DASH
URABE IS SO CUTE...
HEH HEH HEH... ♥
MREE
MREE
ミーン
ミーン

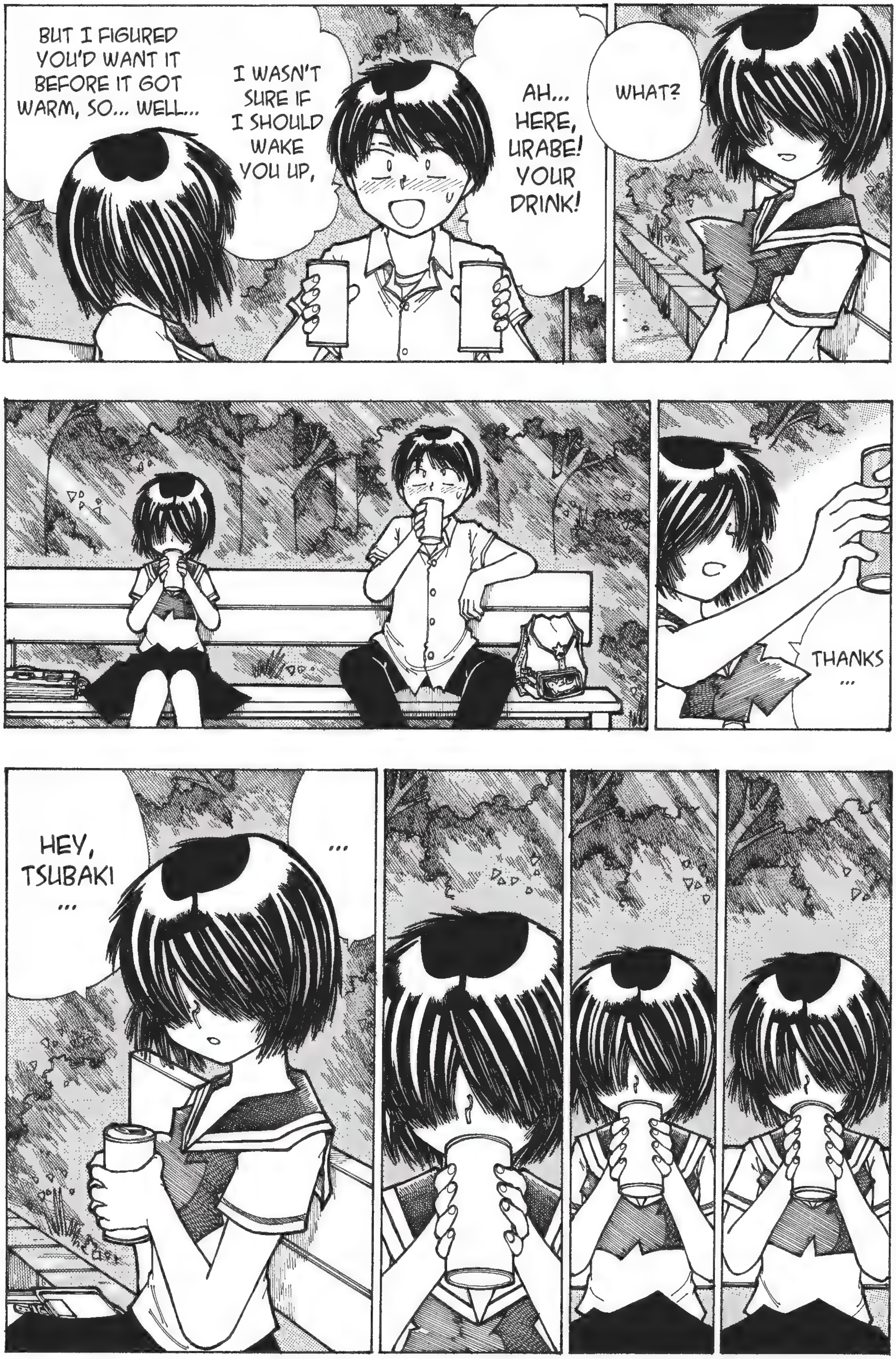

THE SUN'S SO INTENSE TODAY...
WANNA STOP BY THE PARK FOR A BREATHER?
SURE...
MREE
MREE
I'LL GO BUY US SOME DRINKS.
THANKS...

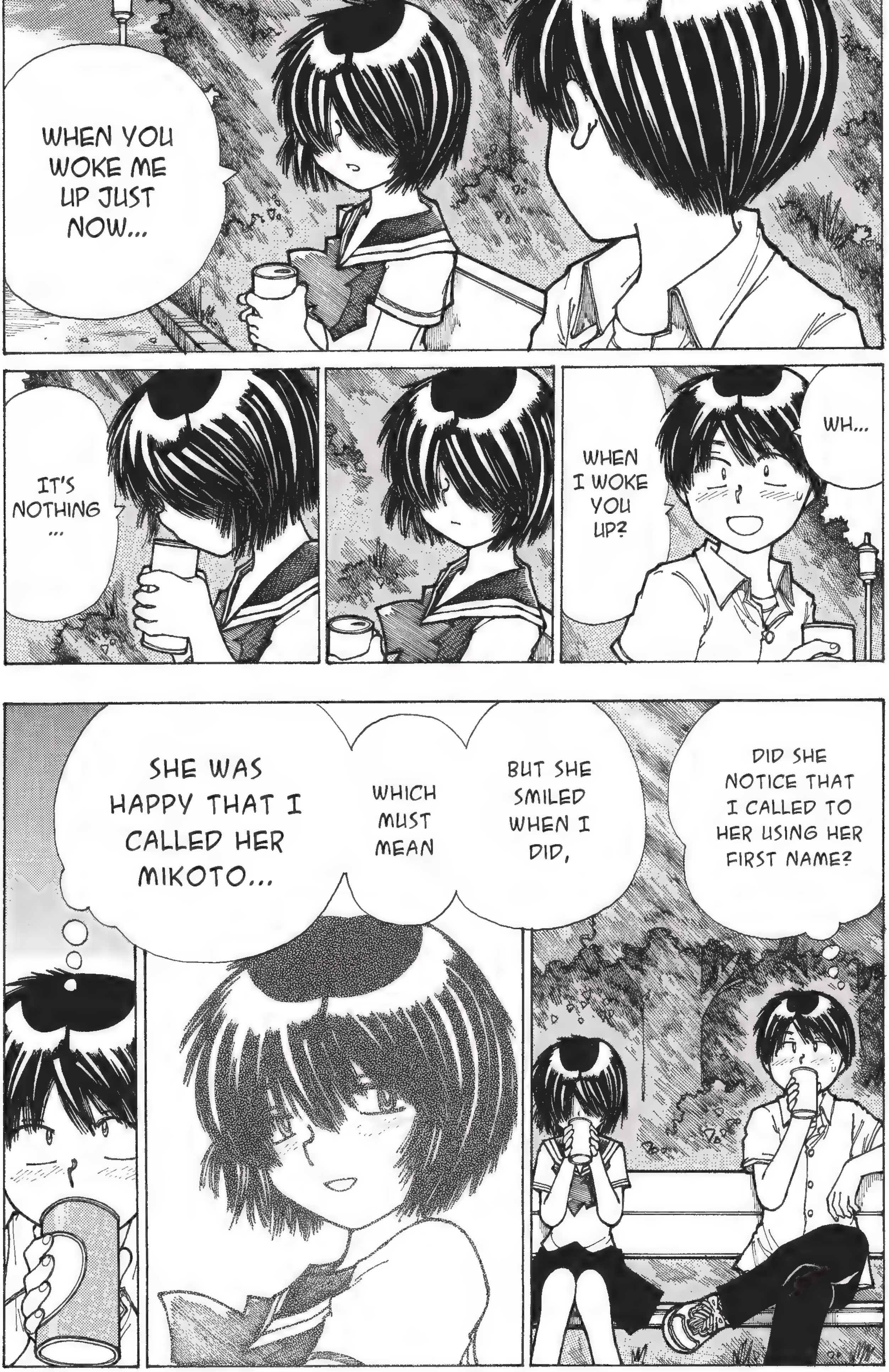

ガコンッ
KA
KLUNK
EDO CIDER
JAPANESE TASTE
DREAMY TEA
TASTY!
CALLING EACH OTHER BY FIRST NAMES...
...
BUT...
MI-KOTO!
IF I CALLED HER THAT OUT OF NOWHERE...
ジャキジャキ
ジャキジャキ
SNIP
SNIP
SNIP
SNIP
DON'T CALL ME THAT!
SHE'D PROBABLY UNLEASH HER PANTY SCISSORS ...
I THINK IT'S
STILL TOO SOON FOR US...

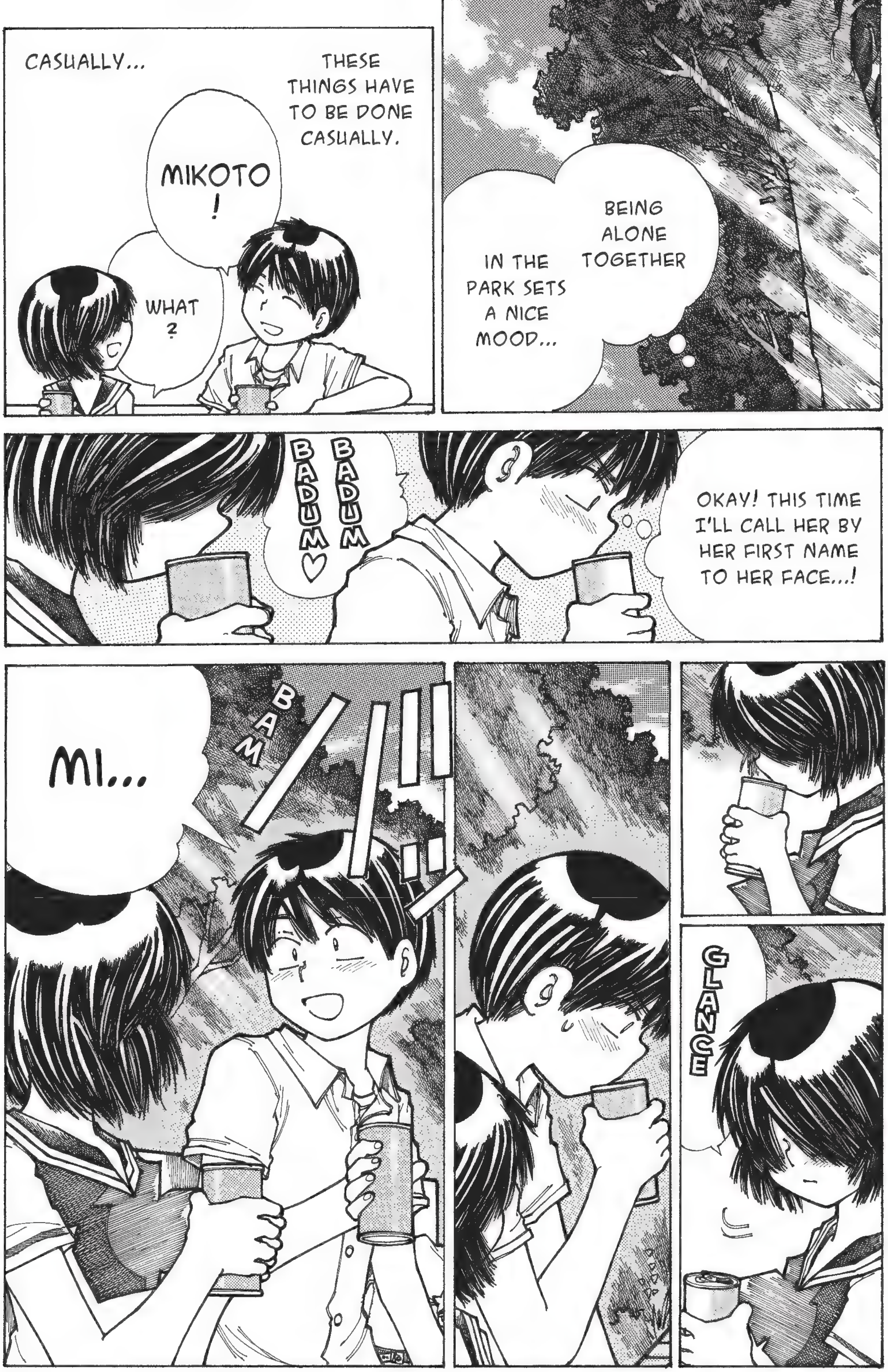

ZZZ...
ZZZ...
SHE FELL ASLEEP...
I PROBABLY SHOULDN'T WAKE HER UP...
AH, BUT HER DRINK WILL GET WARM...
URABE!

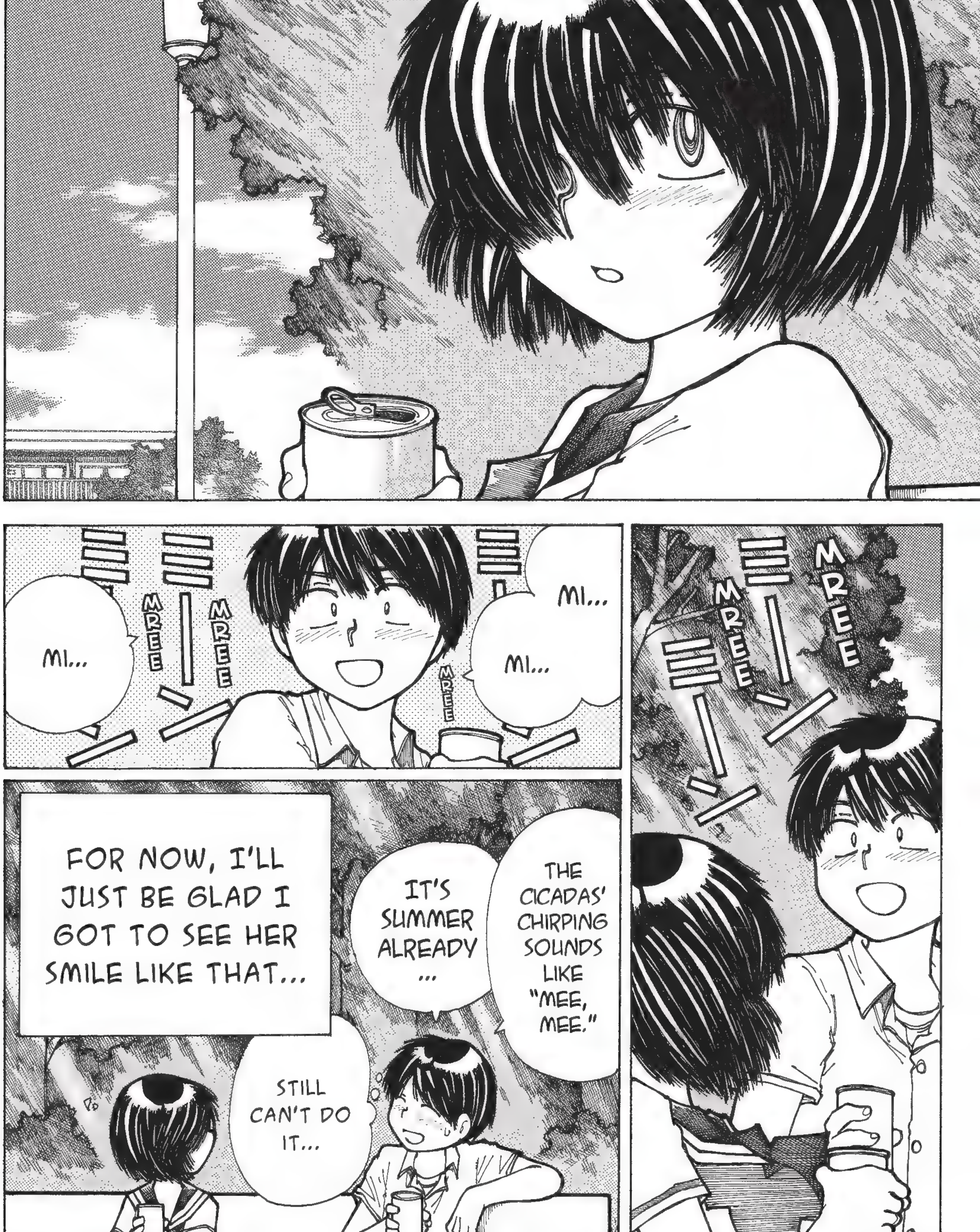

I GOT YOU SOMETHING TO DRINK!
URABE!
ユサ ユサ
SHAKE SHAKE
ZZZZ...
ZZZZ...
...
MIKOTO ...


MN...
ビクッ
JUMP
WHAT ...?


WHAT?
AH... HERE, URABE! YOUR DRINK!
I WASN'T SURE IF I SHOULD WAKE YOU UP,
BUT I FIGURED YOU'D WANT IT BEFORE IT GOT WARM, SO... WELL...
THANKS ...
...
HEY, TSUBAKI ...

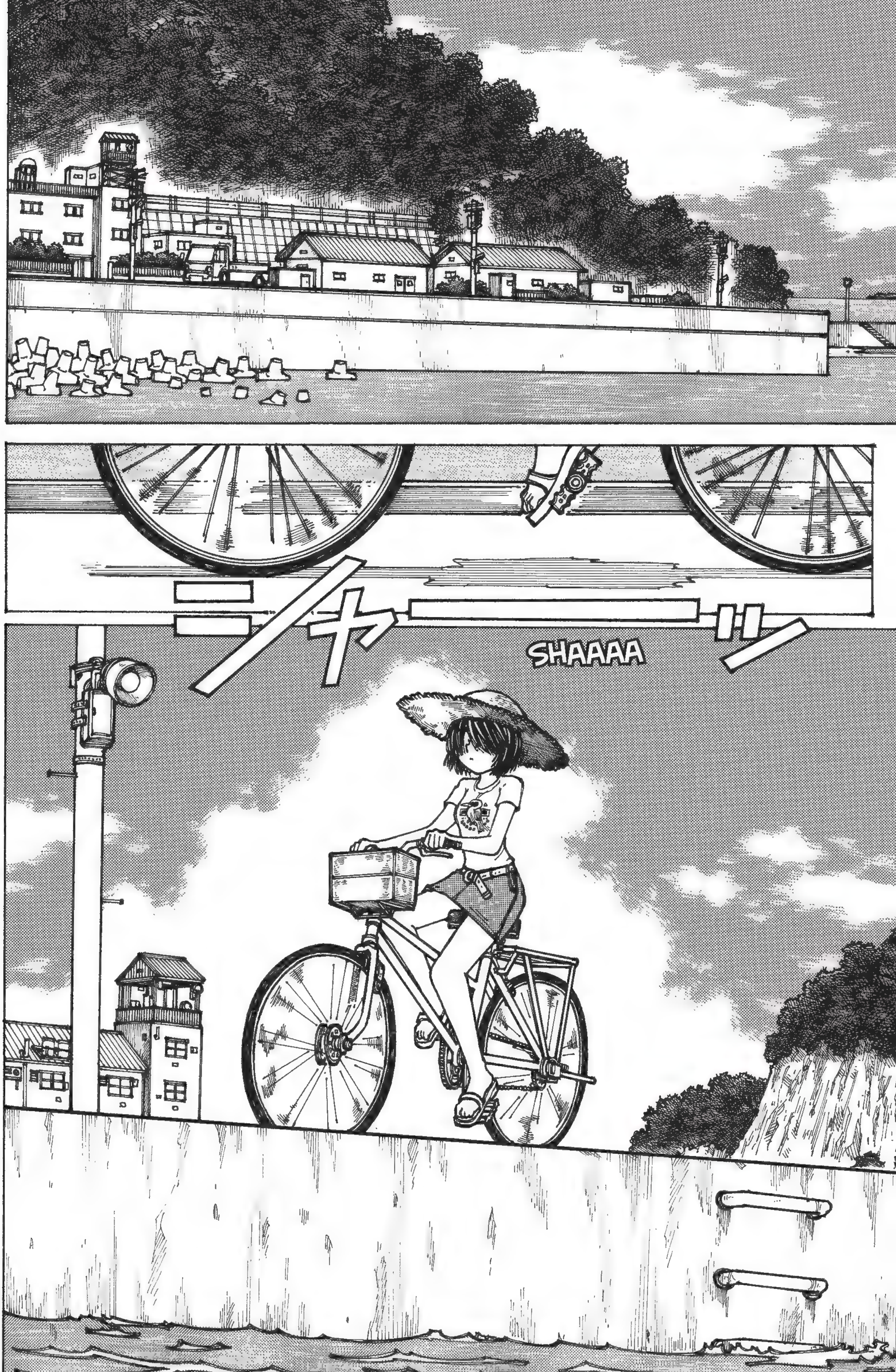

WHEN YOU WOKE ME UP JUST NOW...
WH...
WHEN I WOKE YOU UP?
IT'S NOTHING ...
DID SHE NOTICE THAT I CALLED TO HER USING HER FIRST NAME?
BUT SHE SMILED WHEN I DID,
WHICH MUST MEAN
SHE WAS HAPPY THAT I CALLED HER MIKOTO...

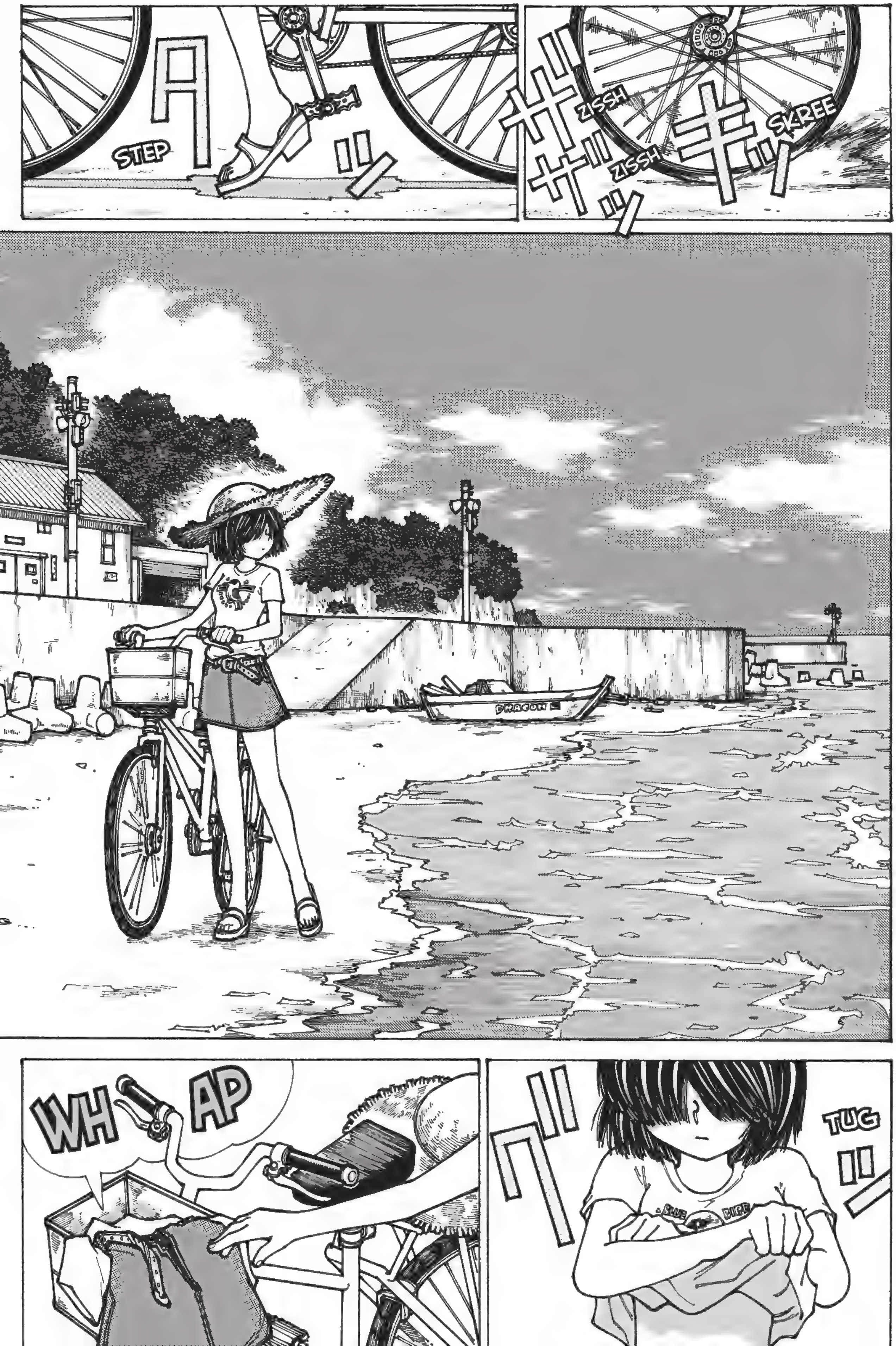

CASUALLY...
THESE THINGS HAVE TO BE DONE CASUALLY.
MIKOTO!
WHAT?
BEING ALONE TOGETHER IN THE PARK SETS A NICE MOOD...
BADUM BADUM
BADUM BADUM ♡
OKAY! THIS TIME I'LL CALL HER BY HER FIRST NAME TO HER FACE...!
MI...
BAM
GLANCE

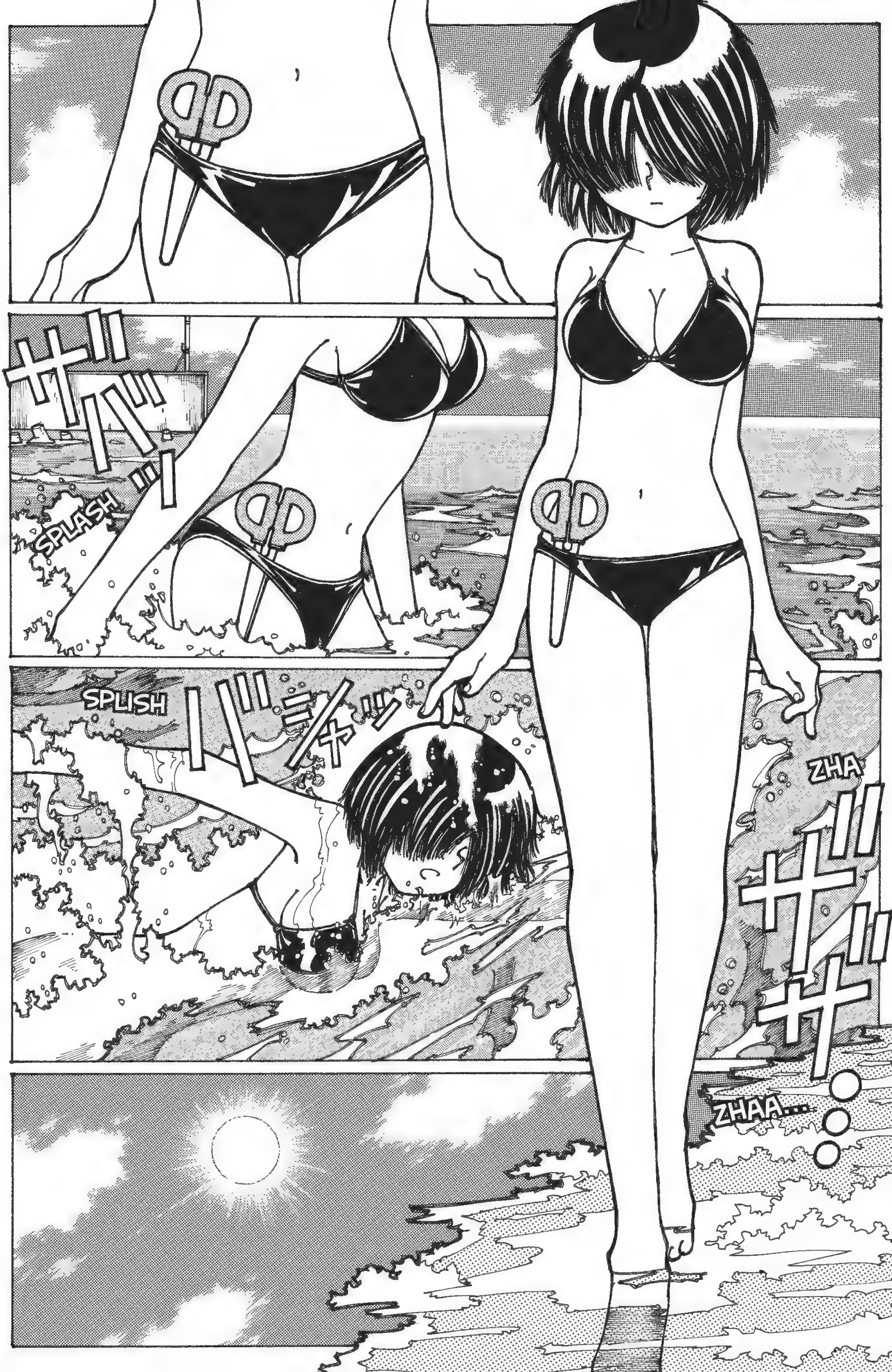

MREE
MREE
MI...
MI...
MREE
MREE
MREE
MI...
THE CICADAS' CHIRPING SOUNDS LIKE "MEE, MEE."
IT'S SUMMER ALREADY...
FOR NOW, I'LL JUST BE GLAD I GOT TO SEE HER SMILE LIKE THAT...
STILL CAN'T DO IT...

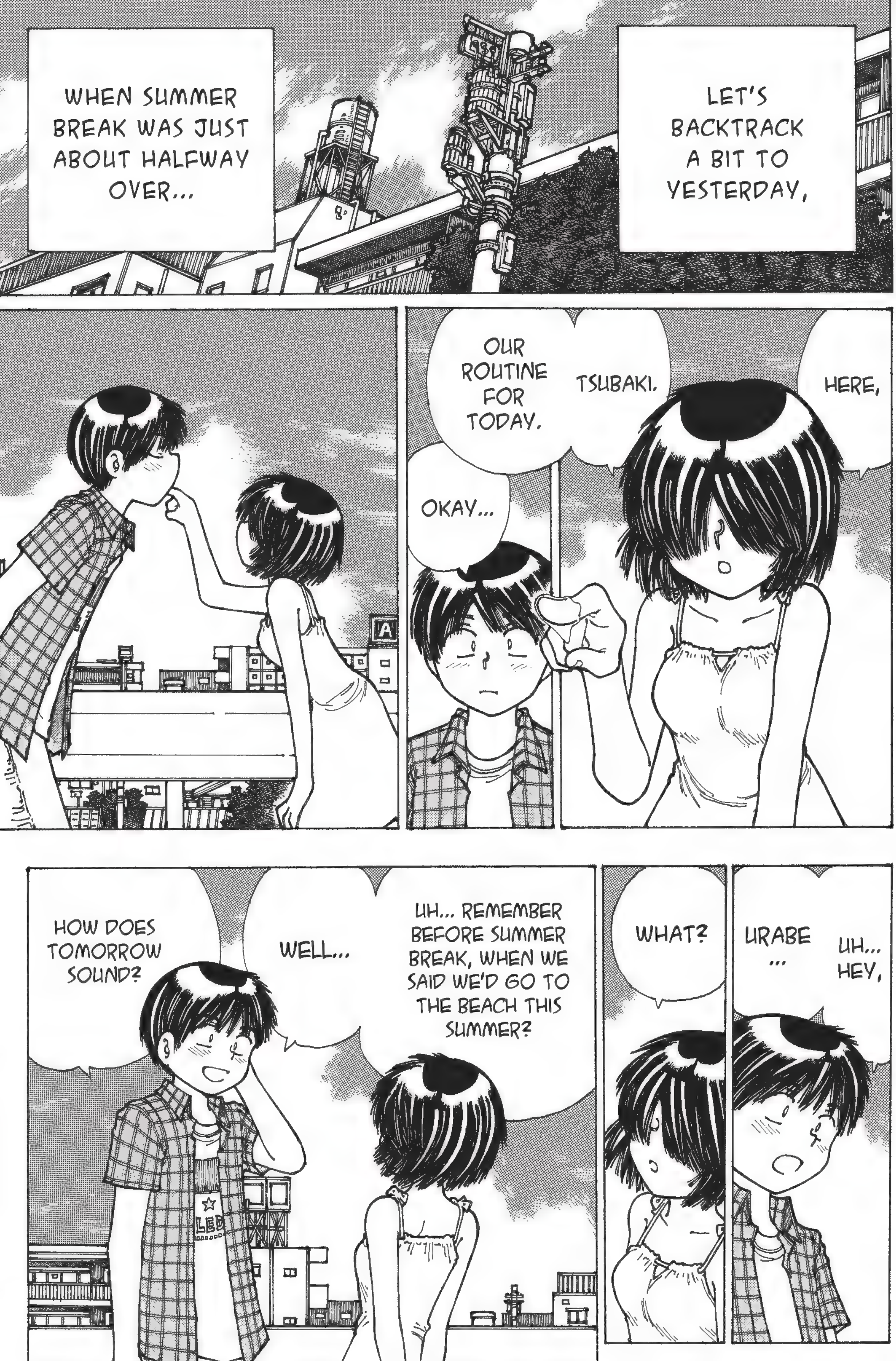
END OF CHAPTER 15

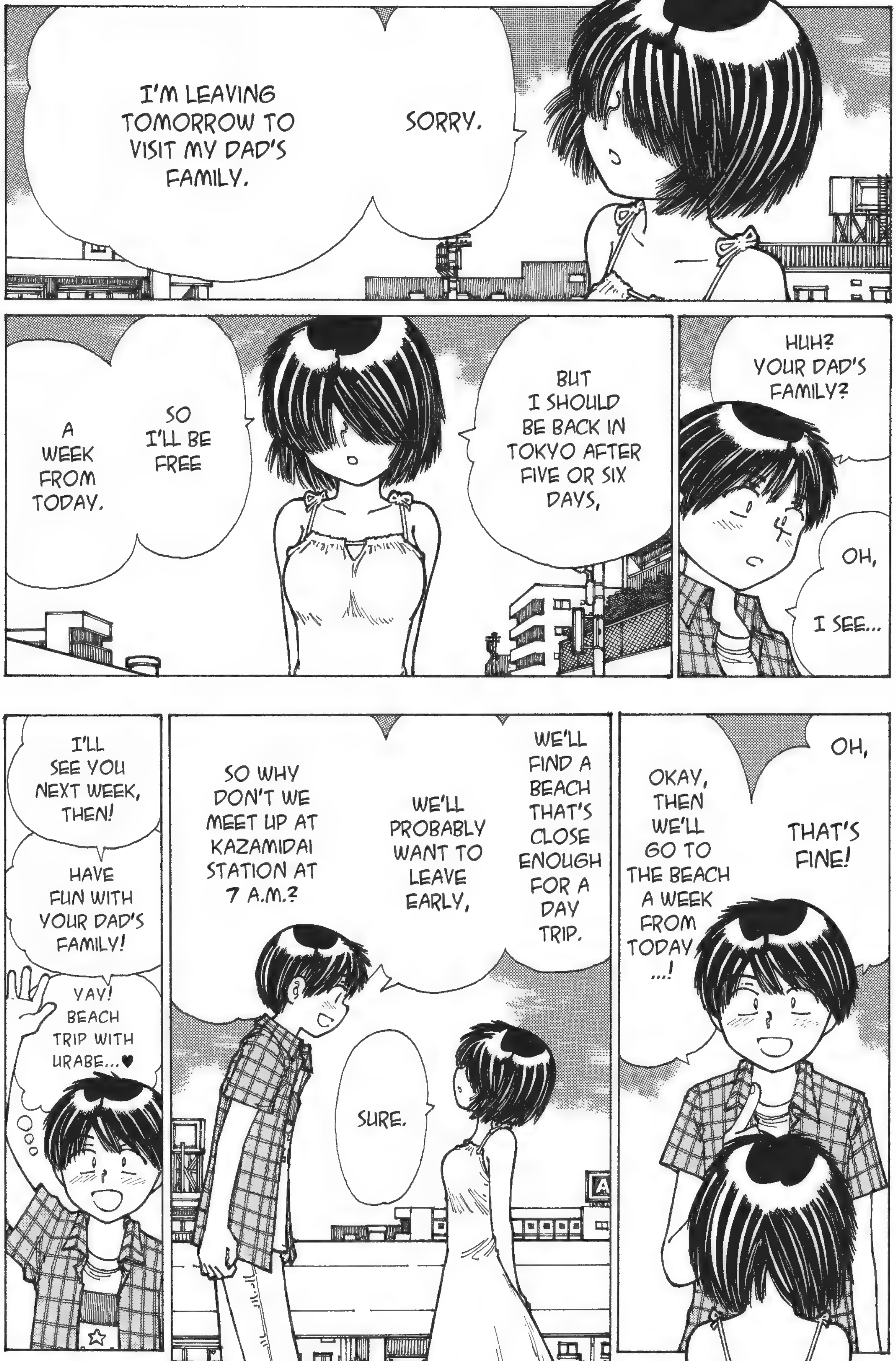
CHAPTER 16: MYSTERIOUS DIP IN THE SEA

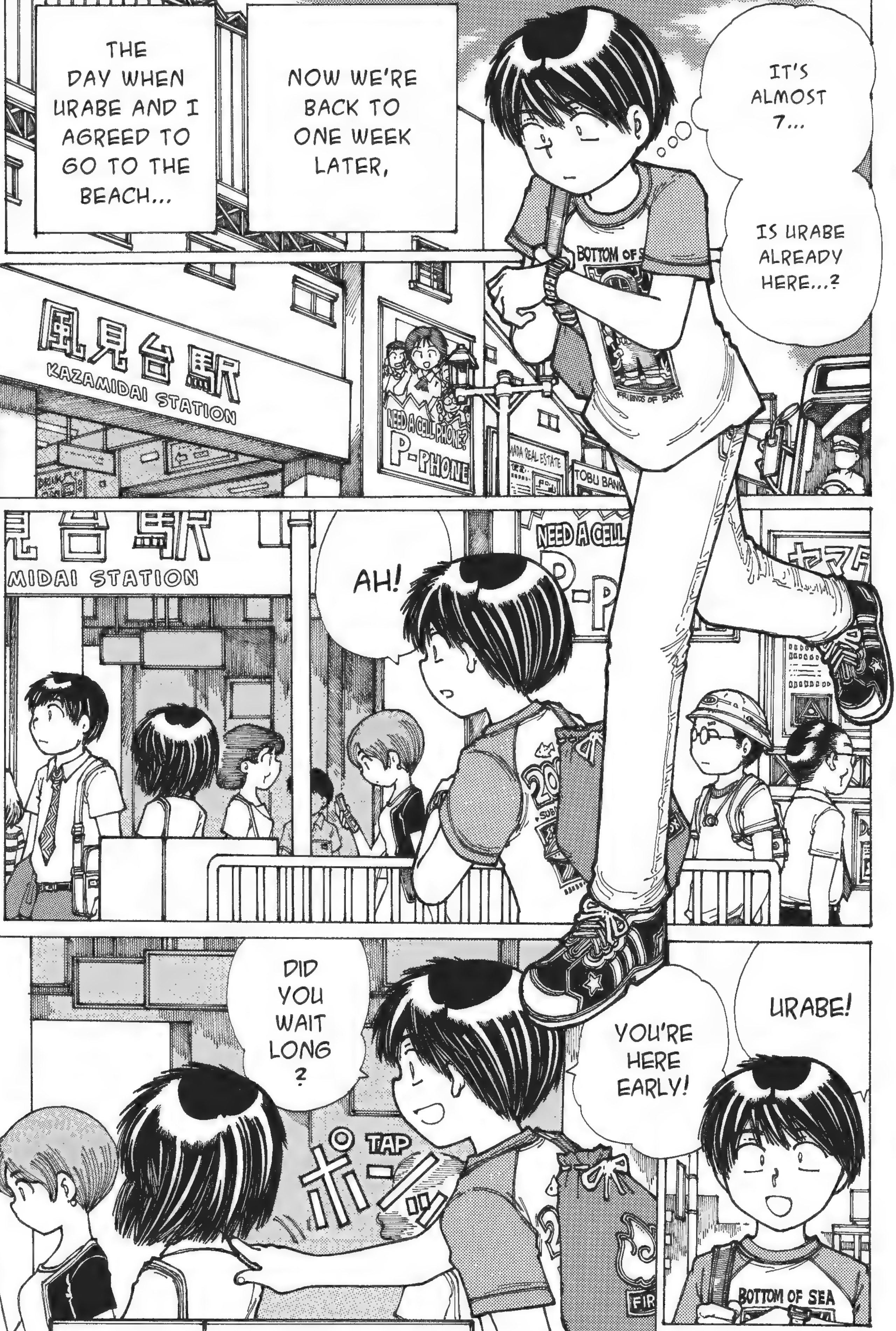

シャーッ
SHAAAA

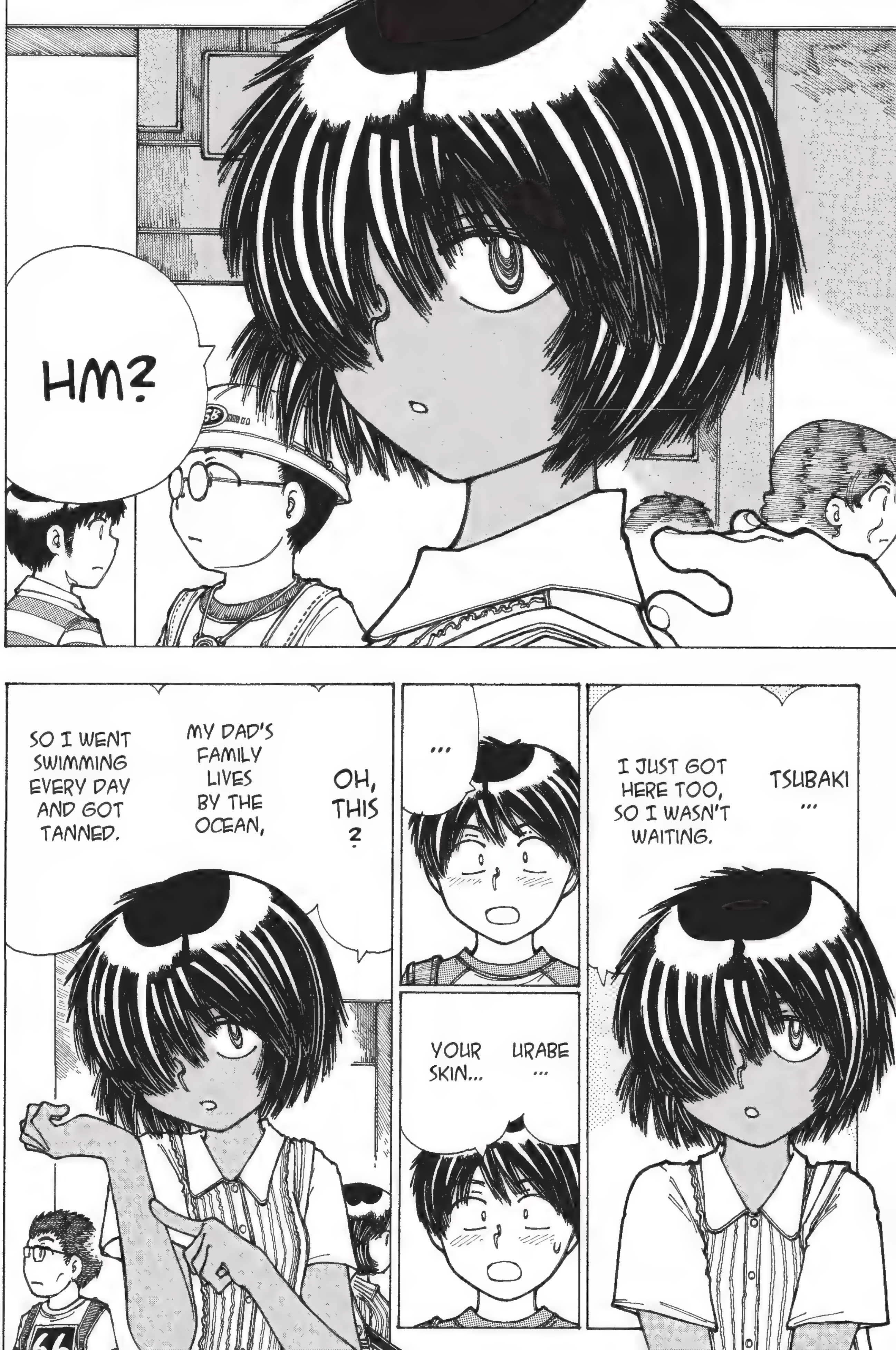

ザザッ
ZISSH
ZISSH
キーッ
SKREE
カッ
STEP
グッ
TUG
WH
AP

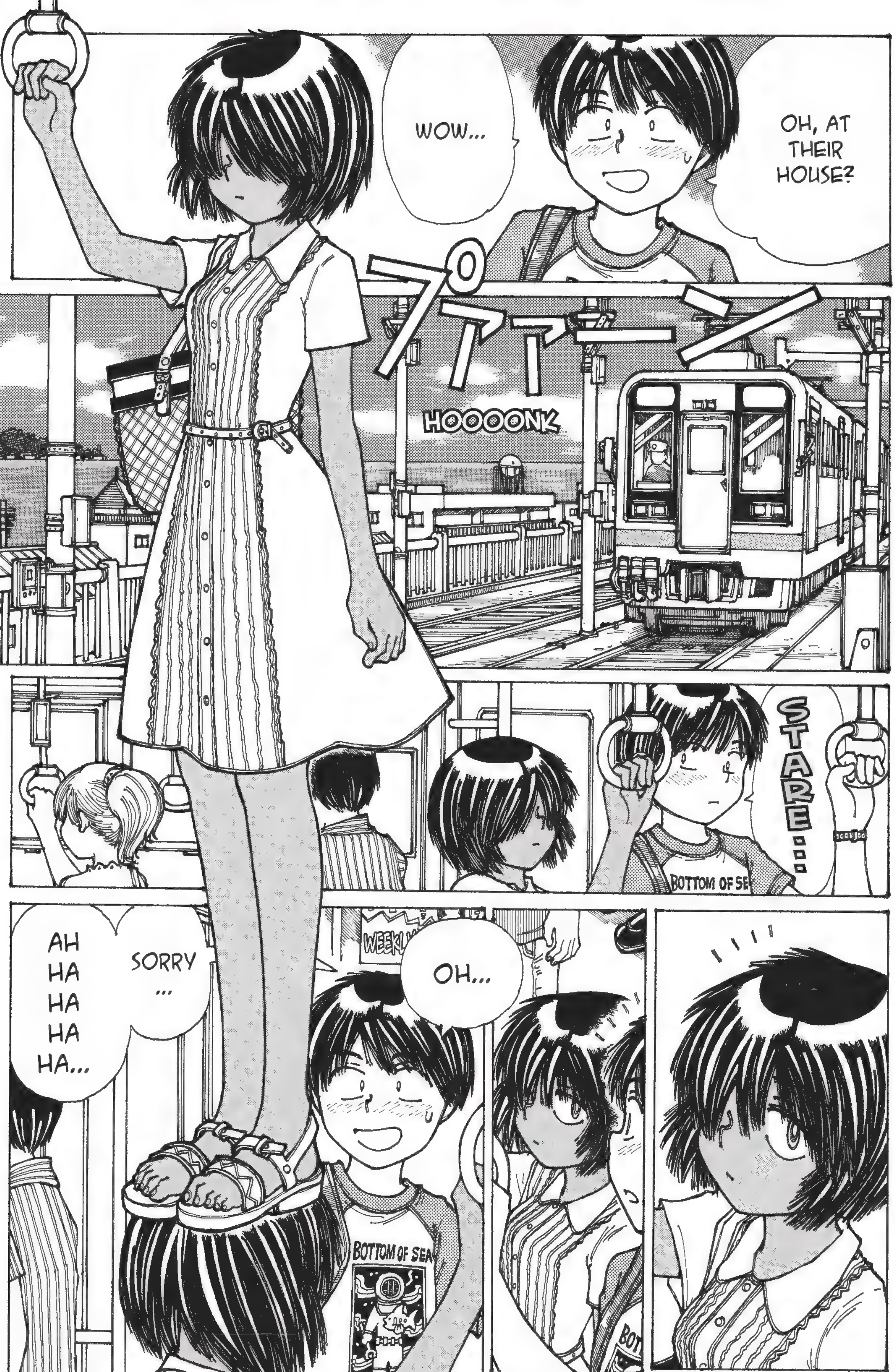

ザバッ
SPLASH
ドシャッ
SPLISH
ザザザ
ZHA
ZHAA...

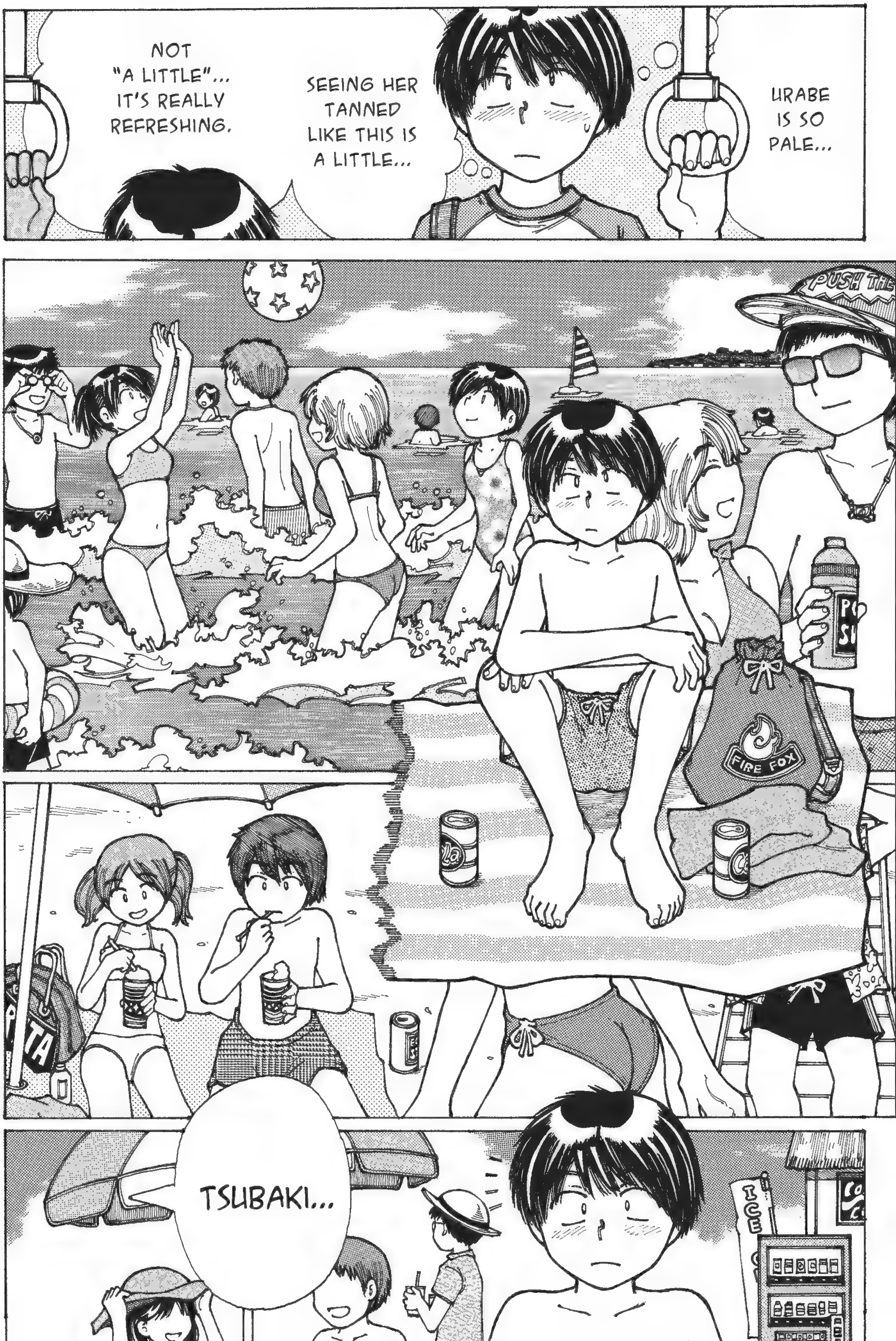

LET'S BACKTRACK A BIT TO YESTERDAY,
WHEN SUMMER BREAK WAS JUST ABOUT HALFWAY OVER...
HERE,
TSUBAKI.
OUR ROUTINE FOR TODAY.
OKAY...
A
UH... HEY,
URABE...
WHAT?
UH... REMEMBER BEFORE SUMMER BREAK, WHEN WE SAID WE'D GO TO THE BEACH THIS SUMMER?
WELL...
HOW DOES TOMORROW SOUND?
LED

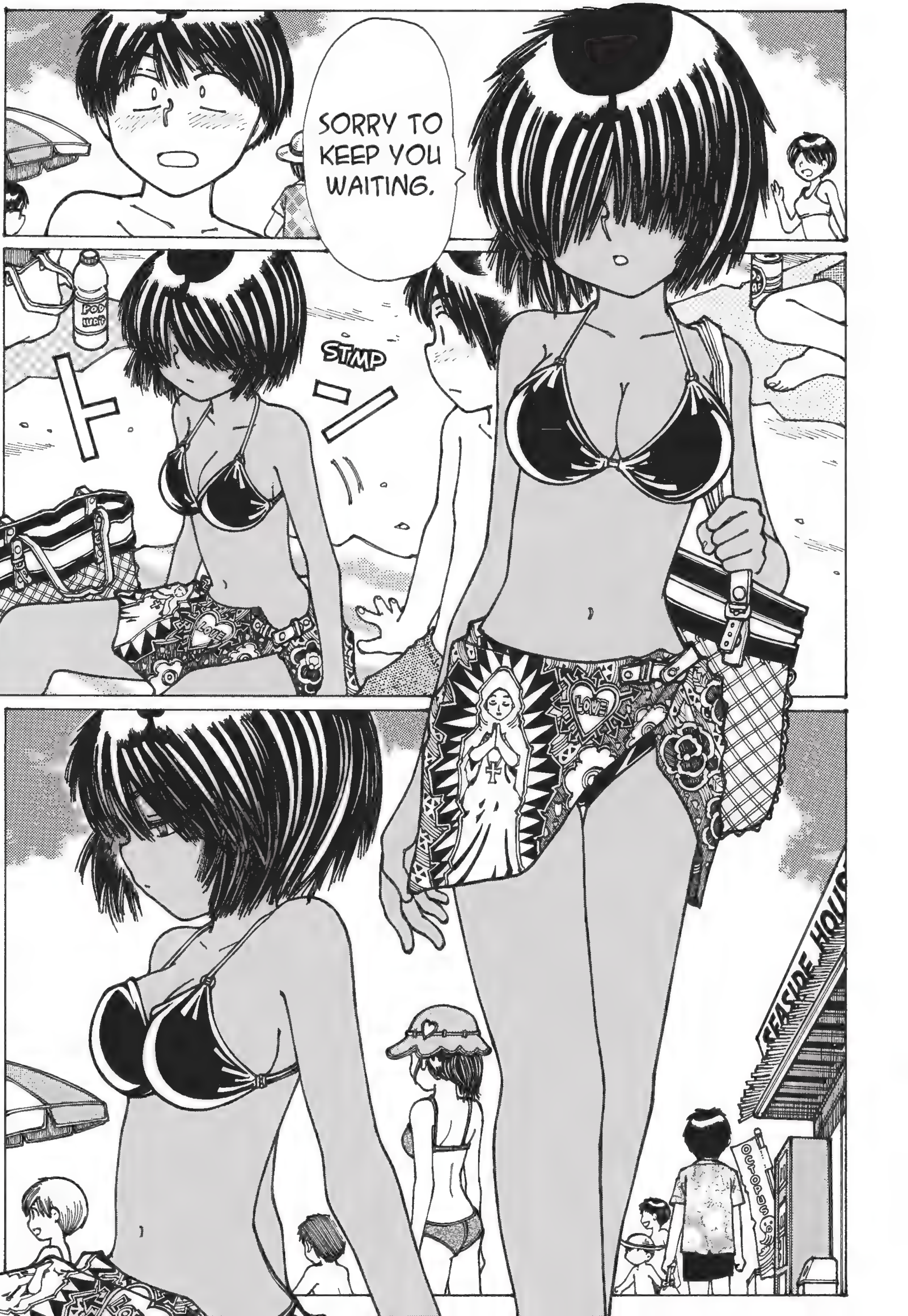

SORRY.
I'M LEAVING TOMORROW TO VISIT MY DAD'S FAMILY.
HUH? YOUR DAD'S FAMILY?
OH, I SEE...
BUT I SHOULD BE BACK IN TOKYO AFTER FIVE OR SIX DAYS,
SO I'LL BE FREE
A WEEK FROM TODAY.
OH, THAT'S FINE!
OKAY, THEN WE'LL GO TO THE BEACH A WEEK FROM TODAY...!
WE'LL FIND A BEACH THAT'S CLOSE ENOUGH FOR A DAY TRIP.
WE'LL PROBABLY WANT TO LEAVE EARLY,
SO WHY DON'T WE MEET UP AT KAZAMIDAI STATION AT 7 A.M.?
SURE.
I'LL SEE YOU NEXT WEEK, THEN!
HAVE FUN WITH YOUR DAD'S FAMILY!
YAY! BEACH TRIP WITH URABE...♥

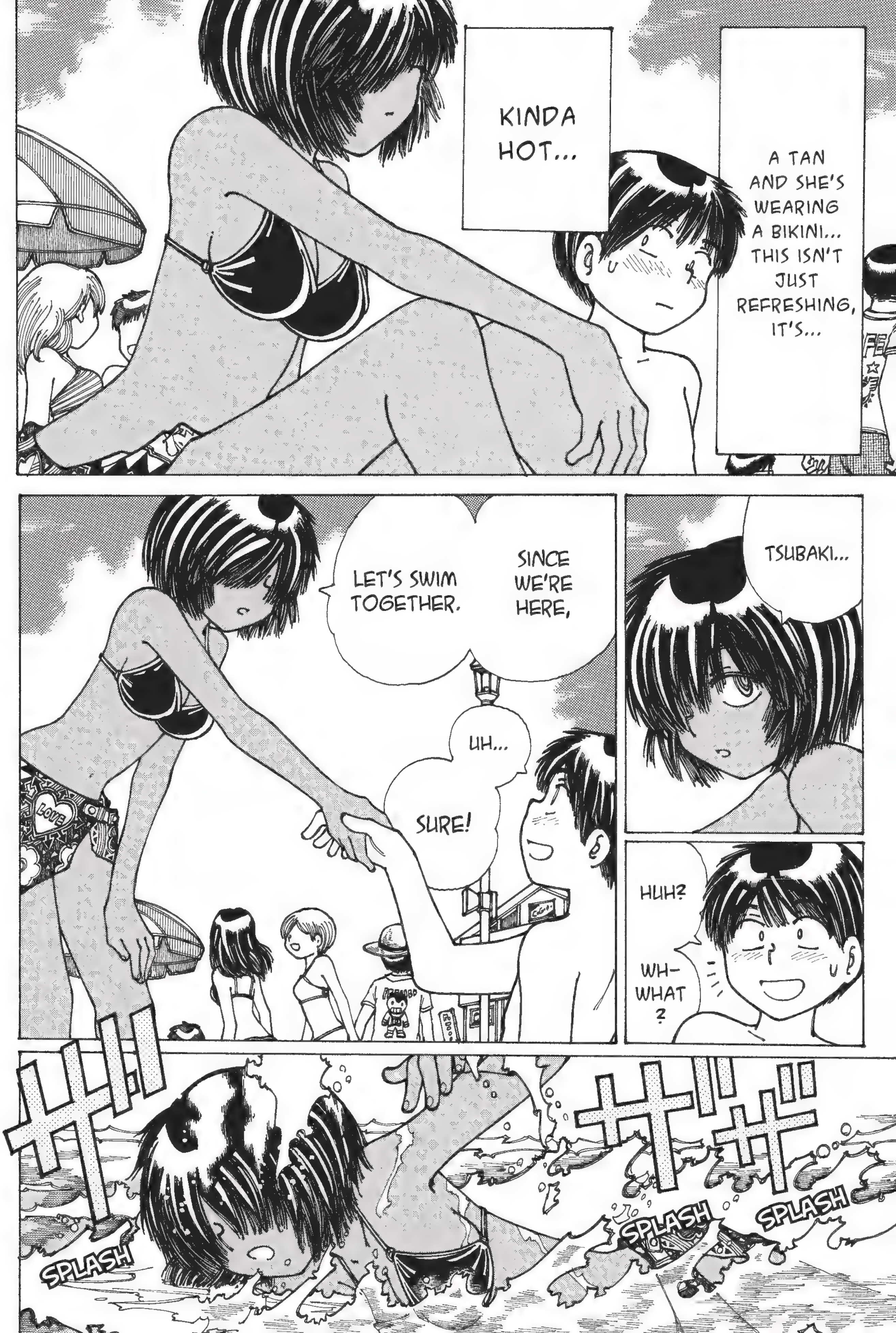

NOW WE'RE BACK TO ONE WEEK LATER,
THE DAY WHEN URABE AND I AGREED TO GO TO THE BEACH...
IT'S ALMOST 7...
IS URABE ALREADY HERE...?
BOTTOM OF S
FRIENDS OF EARTH
風見台駅
KAZAMIDAI STATION
NEED A CELL PHONE?
P-PHONE
ADA REAL ESTATE
TOBU BANK
AH!
URABE!
YOU'RE HERE EARLY!
DID YOU WAIT LONG?
ポーン
TAP
BOTTOM OF SEA

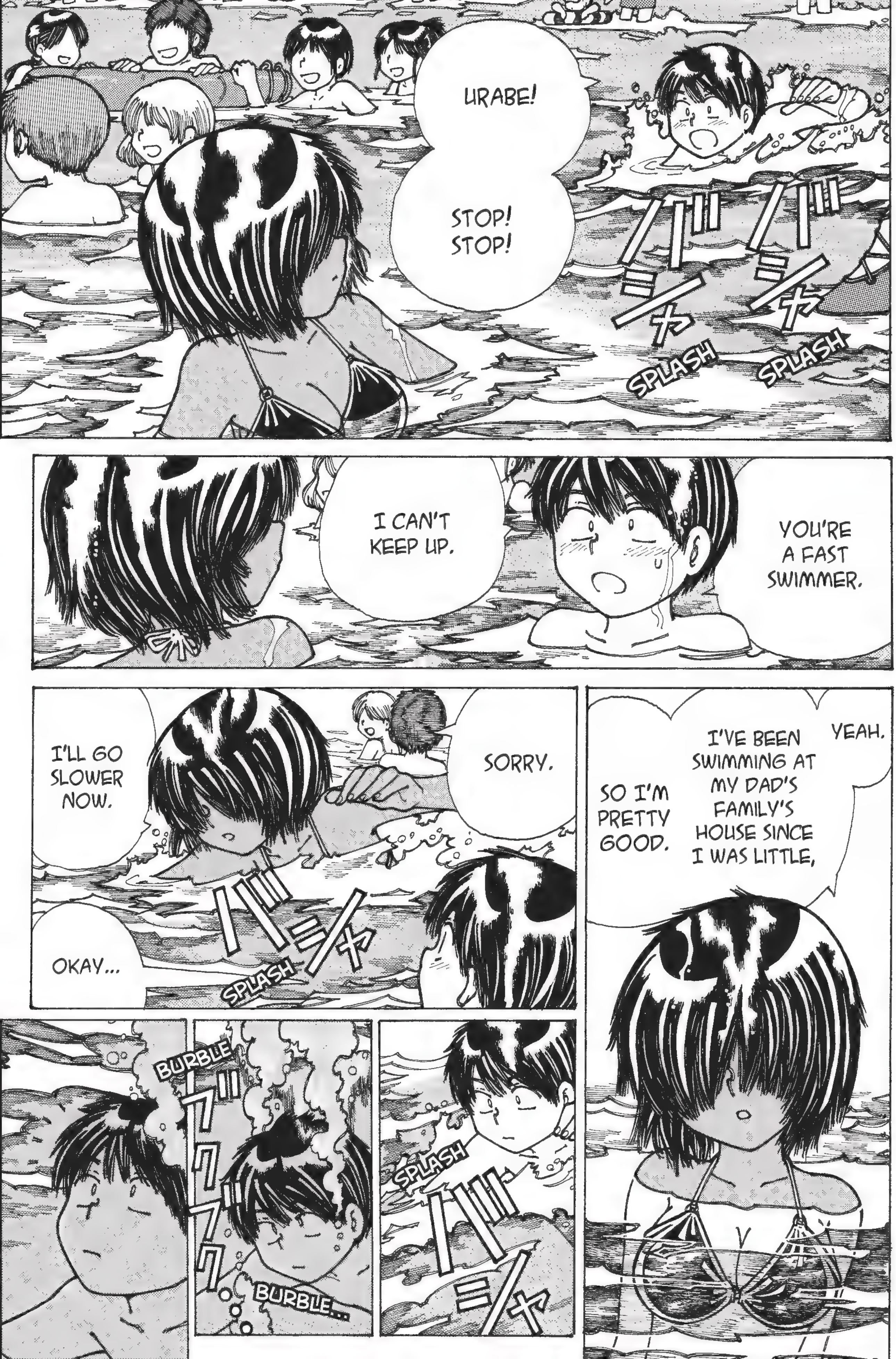

HM?
TSUBAKI ...
I JUST GOT HERE TOO, SO I WASN'T WAITING.
...
URABE ...
YOUR SKIN...
OH, THIS?
MY DAD'S FAMILY LIVES BY THE OCEAN,
SO I WENT SWIMMING EVERY DAY AND GOT TANNED.

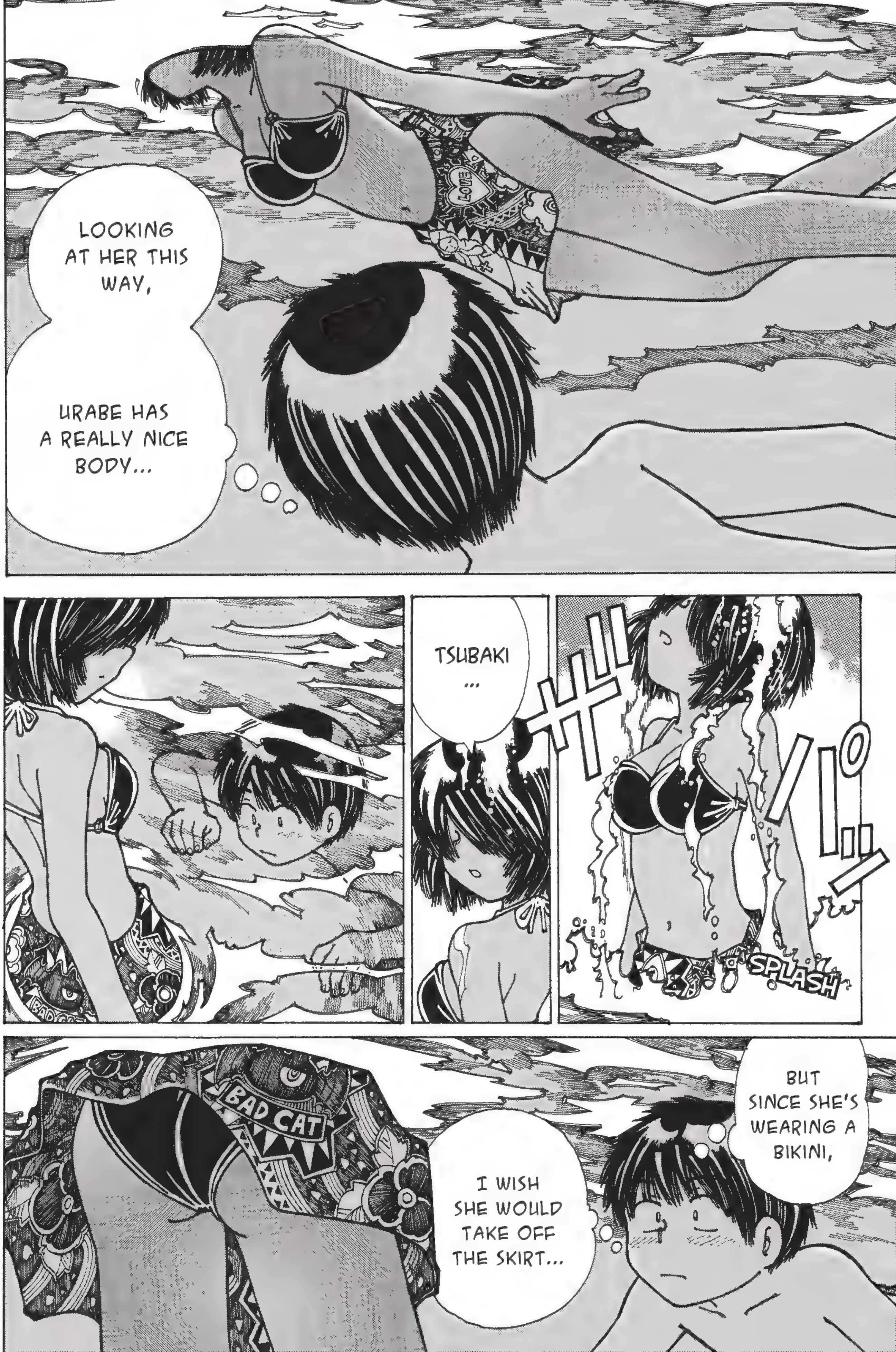

OH, AT THEIR HOUSE?
WOW...
プアーン
HOOOONK
STARE...
OH...
SORRY ...
AH HA HA HA HA HA...
WEEKLY

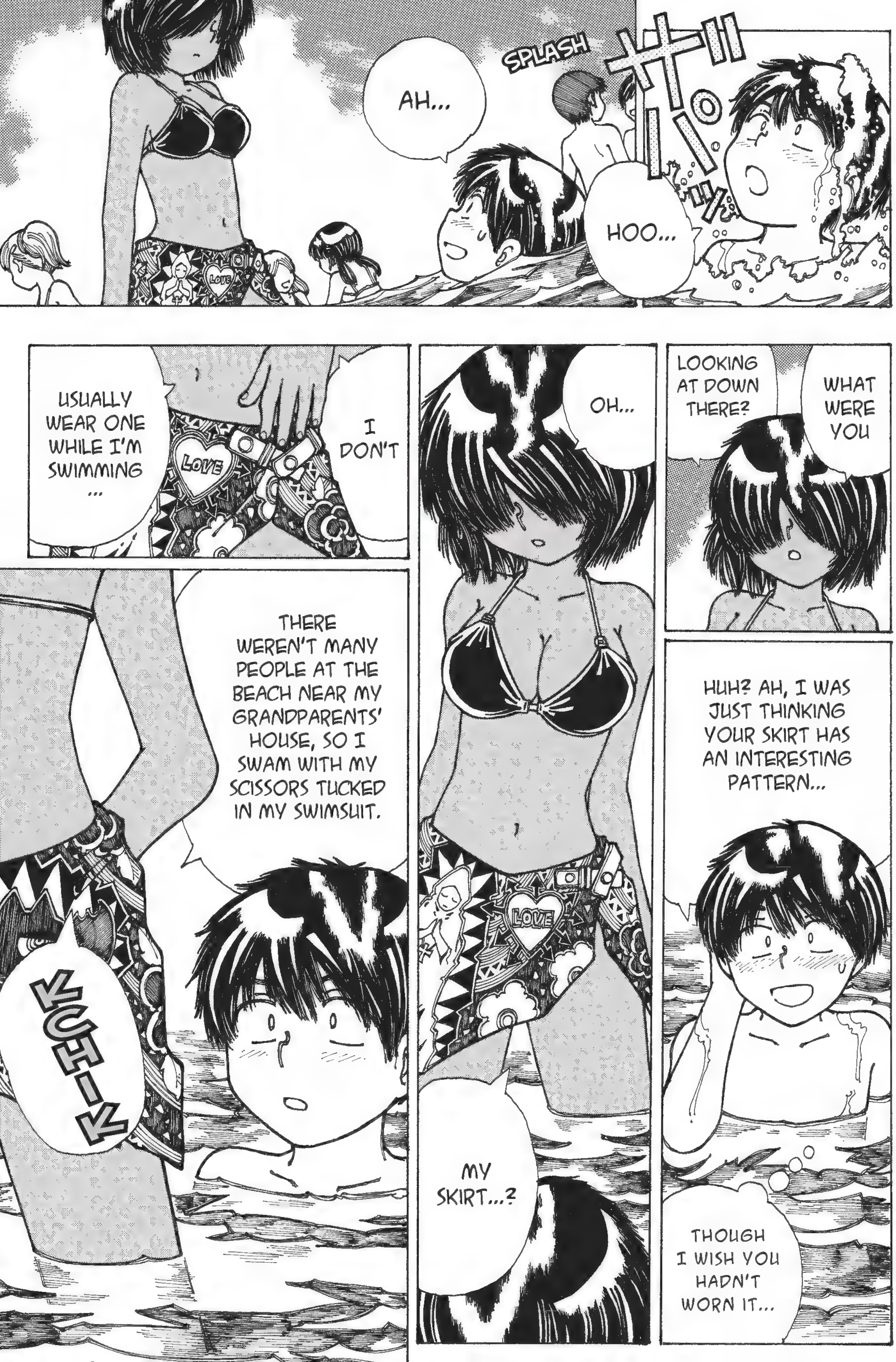

URABE IS SO PALE...
SEEING HER TANNED LIKE THIS IS A LITTLE...
NOT "A LITTLE"... IT'S REALLY REFRESHING.
PUSH THE
FIRE FOX
Cola
TSUBAKI...
ICE

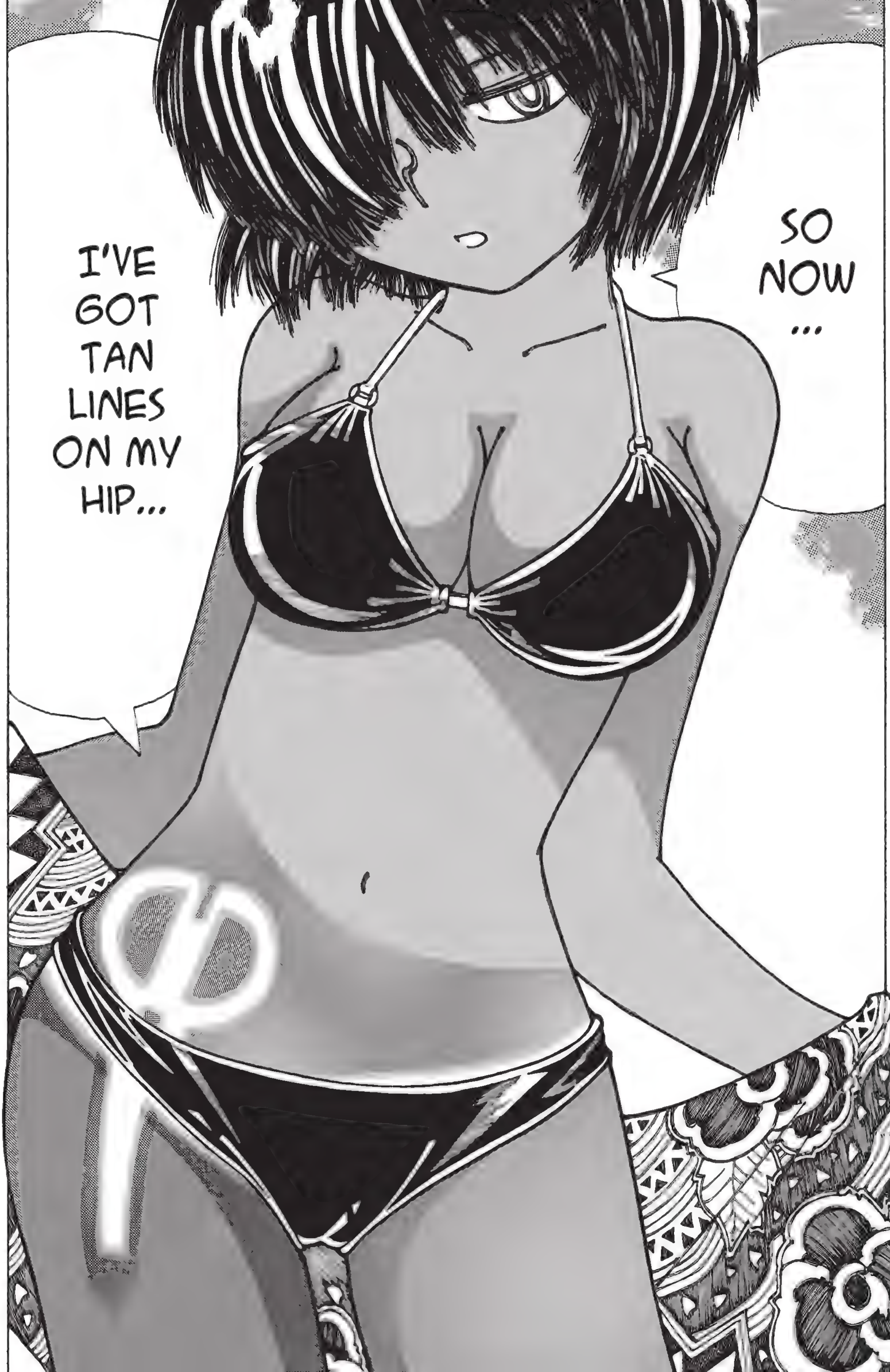

SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAITING.
STMP
トン
POD
LOVE
SEASIDE HOUS
OCTOPUS

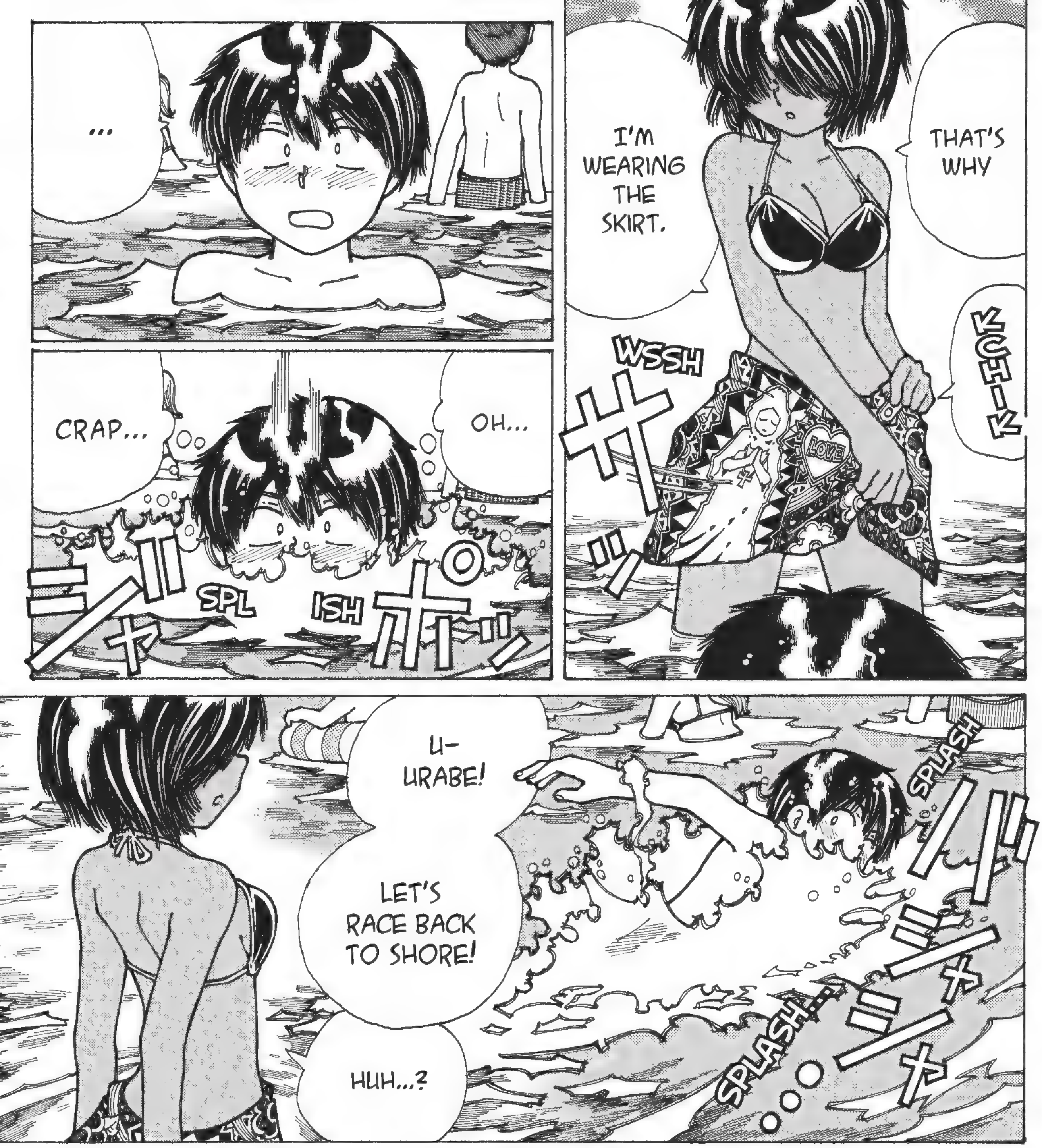

A TAN AND SHE'S WEARING A BIKINI... THIS ISN'T JUST REFRESHING, IT'S...
KINDA HOT...
TSUBAKI...
HUH?
WH- WHAT?
SINCE WE'RE HERE,
LET'S SWIM TOGETHER.
UH...
SURE!
LOVE
SPLASH
SPLASH
SPLASH

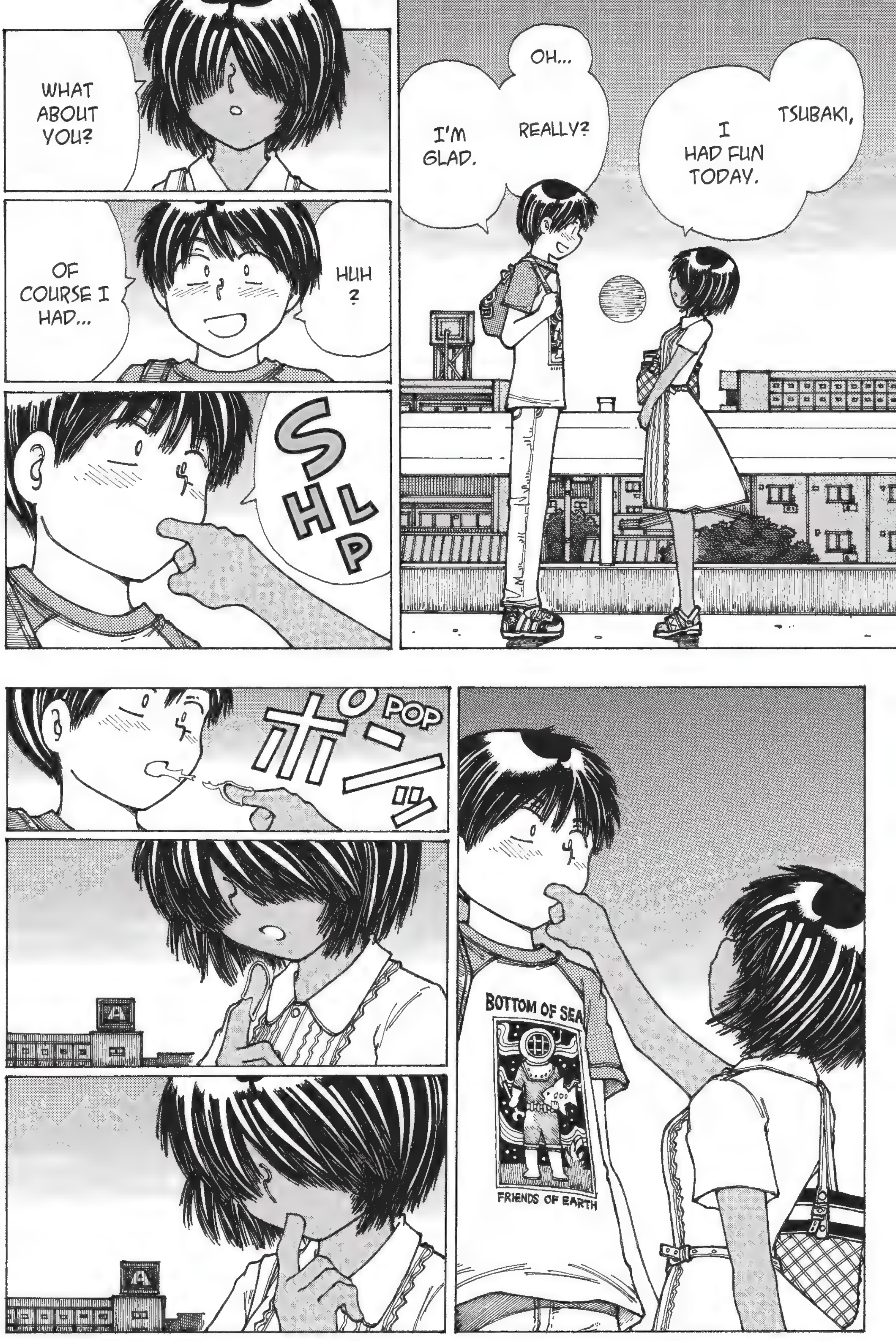

URABE!
STOP! STOP!
SPLASH
SPLASH
YOU'RE A FAST SWIMMER.
I CAN'T KEEP UP.
YEAH.
I'VE BEEN SWIMMING AT MY DAD'S FAMILY'S HOUSE SINCE I WAS LITTLE,
SO I'M PRETTY GOOD.
SORRY.
I'LL GO SLOWER NOW.
OKAY...
SPLASH
SPLASH
BURBLE...
BURBLE

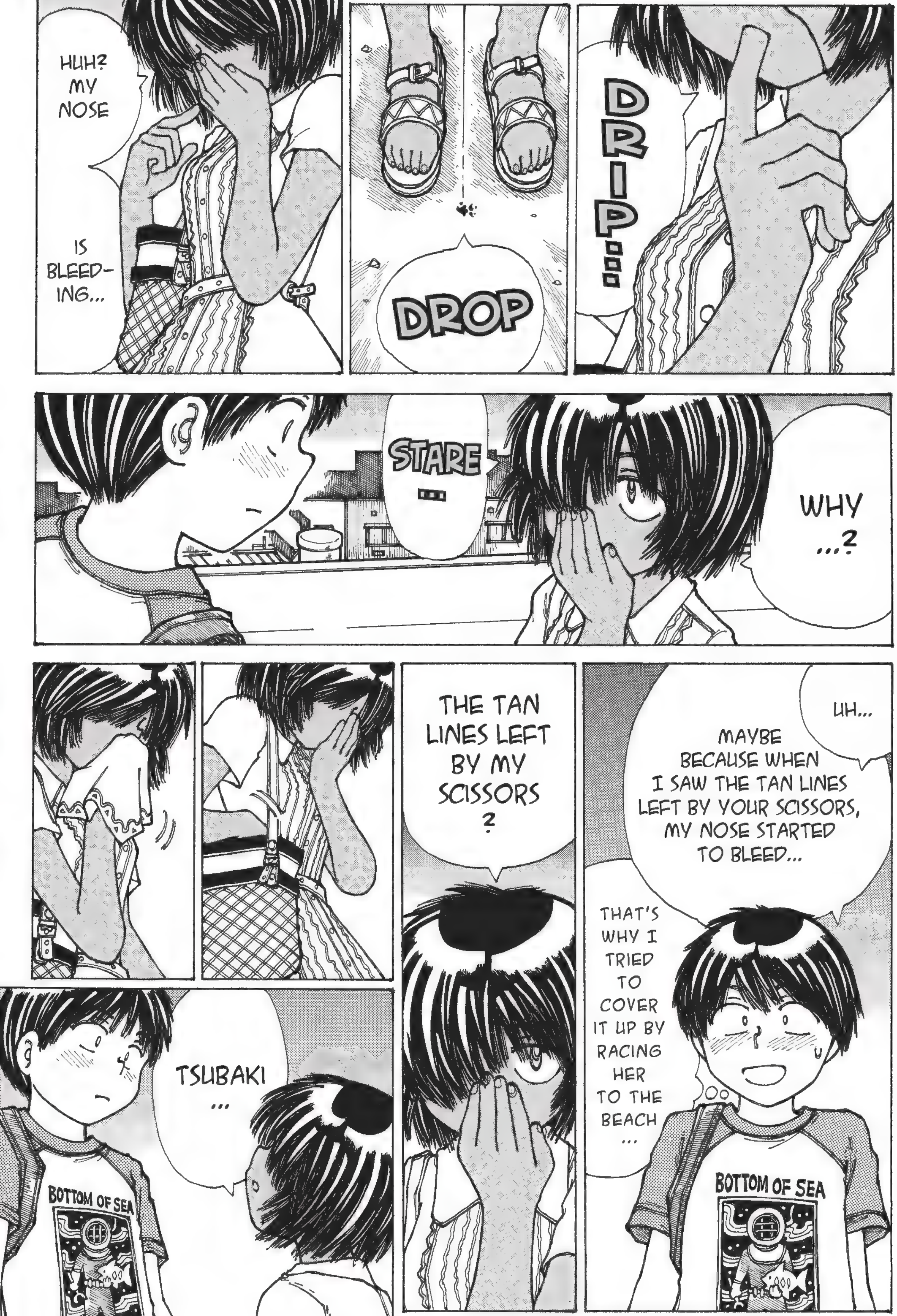

LOOKING AT HER THIS WAY,
URABE HAS A REALLY NICE BODY...
ザパッ
SPLASH
TSUBAKI...
BUT SINCE SHE'S WEARING A BIKINI,
I WISH SHE WOULD TAKE OFF THE SKIRT...
BAD CAT

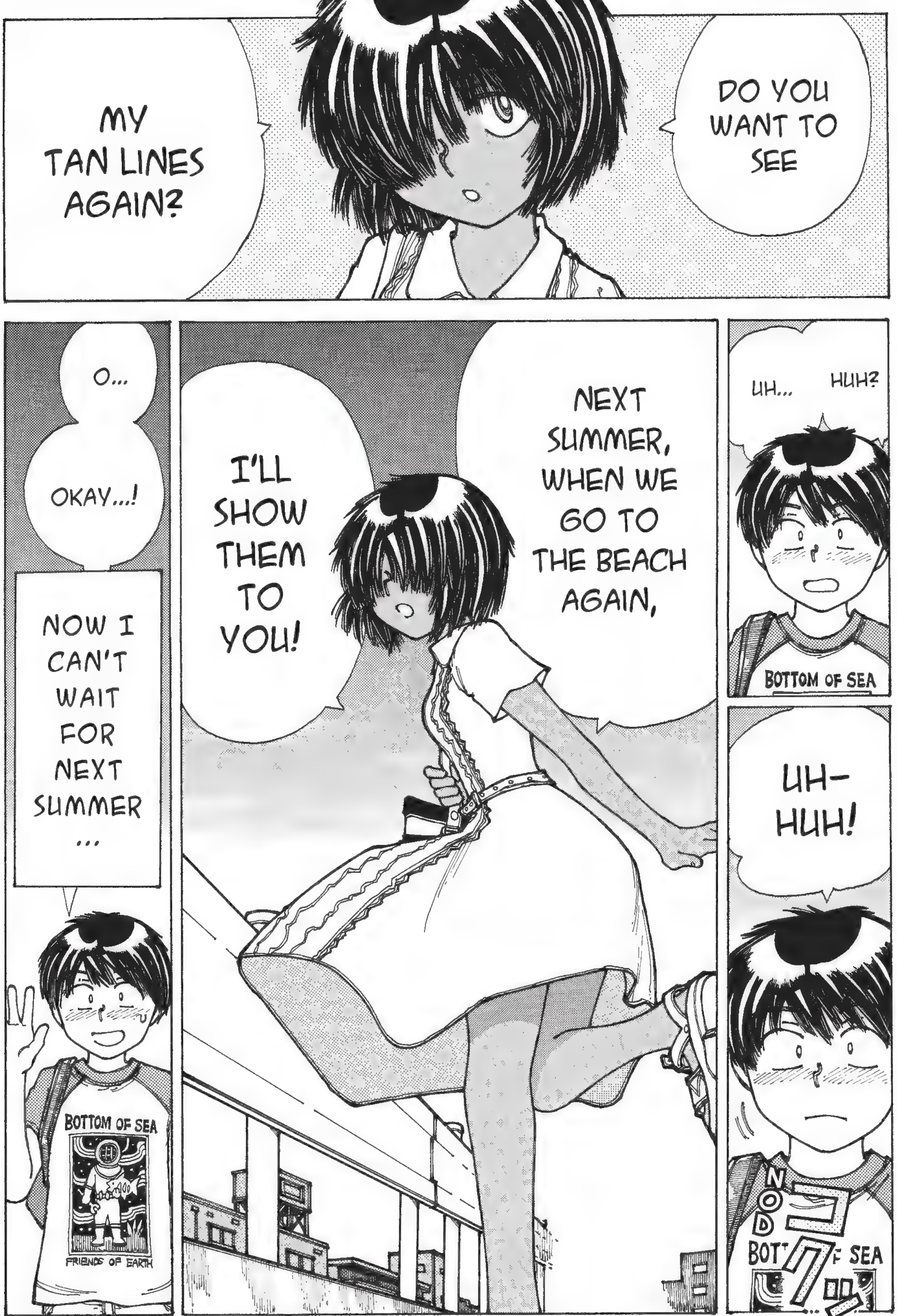

SPLASH
HOO...
AH...
WHAT WERE YOU LOOKING AT DOWN THERE?
OH...
HUH? AH, I WAS JUST THINKING YOUR SKIRT HAS AN INTERESTING PATTERN...
THOUGH I WISH YOU HADN'T WORN IT...
MY SKIRT...?
I DON'T USUALLY WEAR ONE WHILE I'M SWIMMING...
THERE WEREN'T MANY PEOPLE AT THE BEACH NEAR MY GRANDPARENTS' HOUSE, SO I SWAM WITH MY SCISSORS TUCKED IN MY SWIMSUIT.
KCHIK
LOVE


SO NOW ...
I'VE GOT TAN LINES ON MY HIP...


THAT'S WHY
I'M WEARING THE SKIRT.
KCHI-K
WSSH
ザッ
...
OH...
CRAP...
SPLISH
ジャ
ボッ
U-URABE!
LET'S RACE BACK TO SHORE!
HUH...?
SPLASH
ド
SPLASH...
ジャ
ジャ

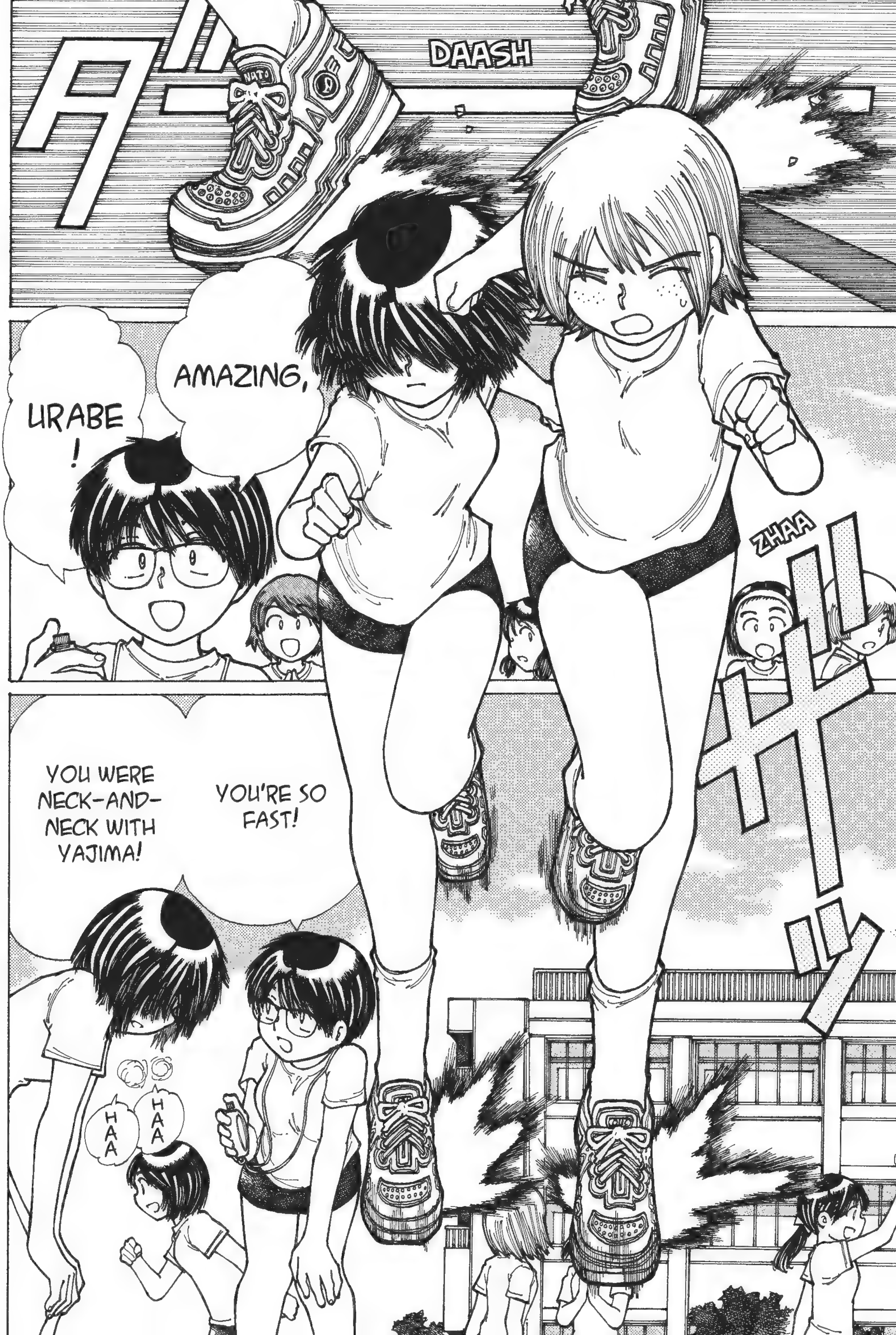

TSUBAKI, I HAD FUN TODAY.
OH... REALLY?
I'M GLAD.
WHAT ABOUT YOU?
HUH ?
OF COURSE I HAD...
SHLP
BOTTOM OF SEA
FRIENDS OF EARTH
ポーッ
POP

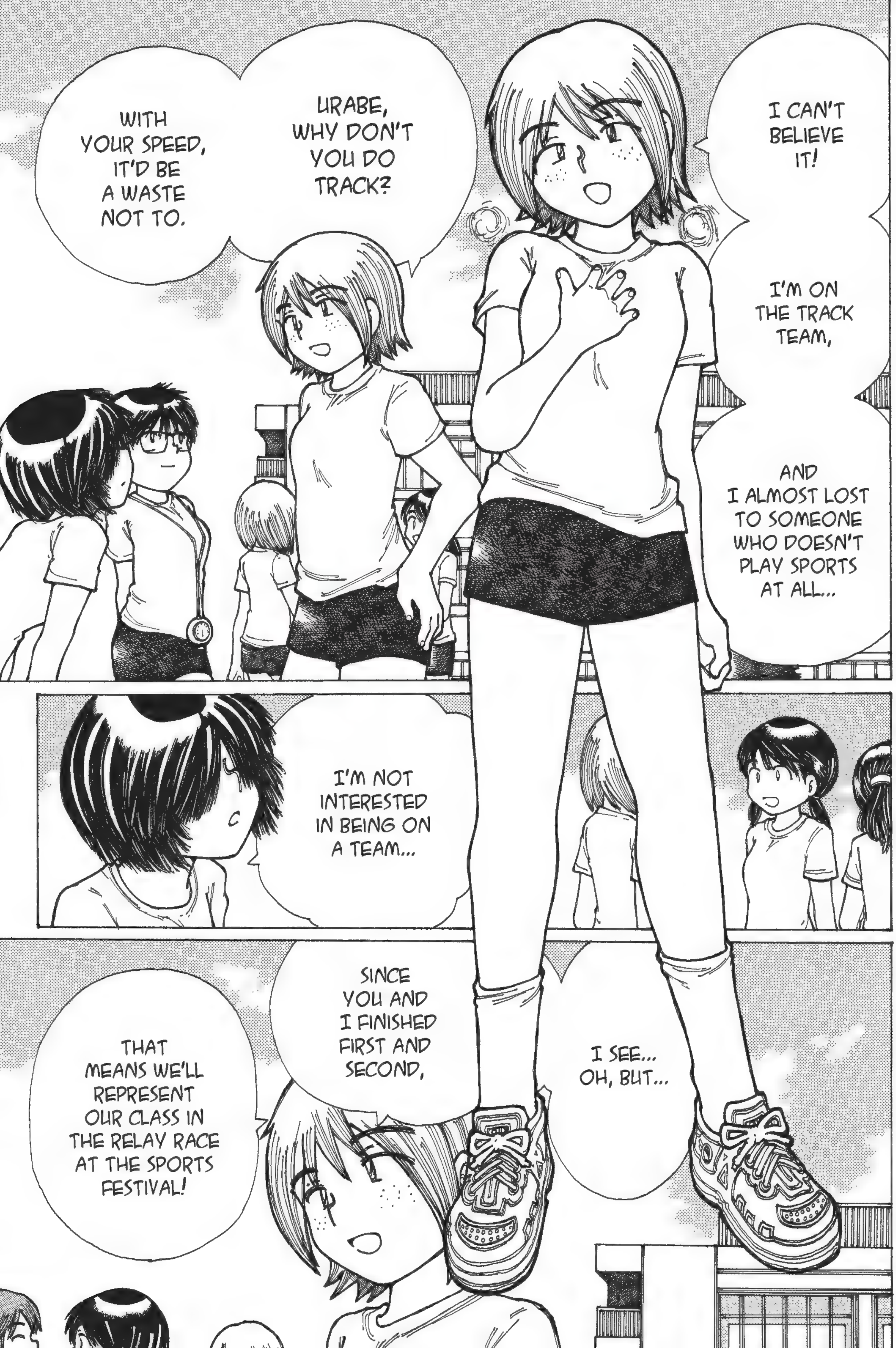

DRIP...
DROP
HUH? MY NOSE
IS BLEEDING...
WHY ...?
STARE ...
UH...
MAYBE BECAUSE WHEN I SAW THE TAN LINES LEFT BY YOUR SCISSORS, MY NOSE STARTED TO BLEED...
THAT'S WHY I TRIED TO COVER IT UP BY RACING HER TO THE BEACH...
BOTTOM OF SEA
THE TAN LINES LEFT BY MY SCISSORS?
TSUBAKI ...
BOTTOM OF SEA

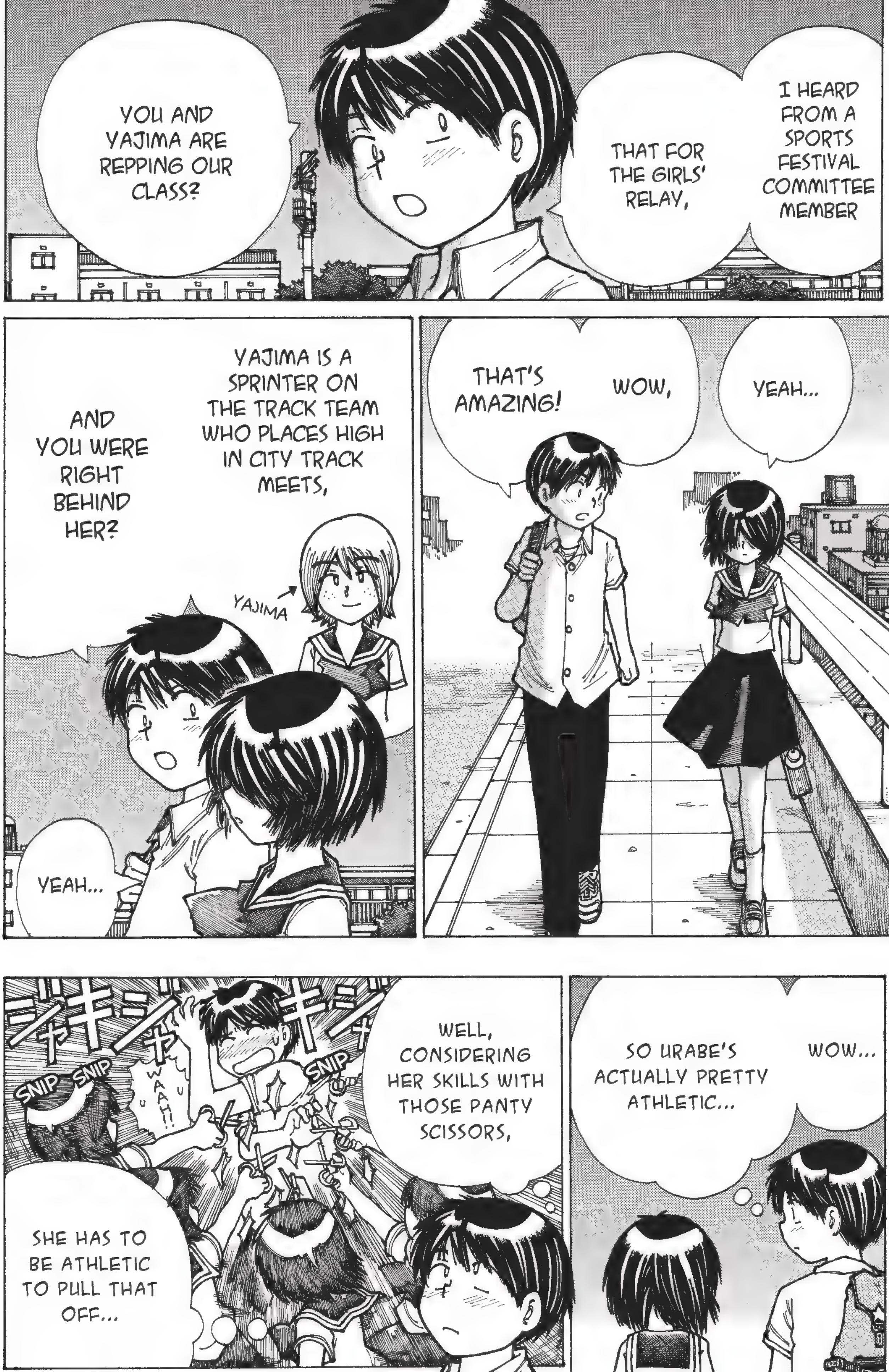

DO YOU WANT TO SEE
MY TAN LINES AGAIN?
HUH?
UH...
BOTTOM OF SEA
UH-HUH!
NOD
BOTT F SEA
NEXT SUMMER, WHEN WE GO TO THE BEACH AGAIN,
I'LL SHOW THEM TO YOU!
O...
OKAY...!
NOW I CAN'T WAIT FOR NEXT SUMMER ...
BOTTOM OF SEA
FRIENDS OF EARTH

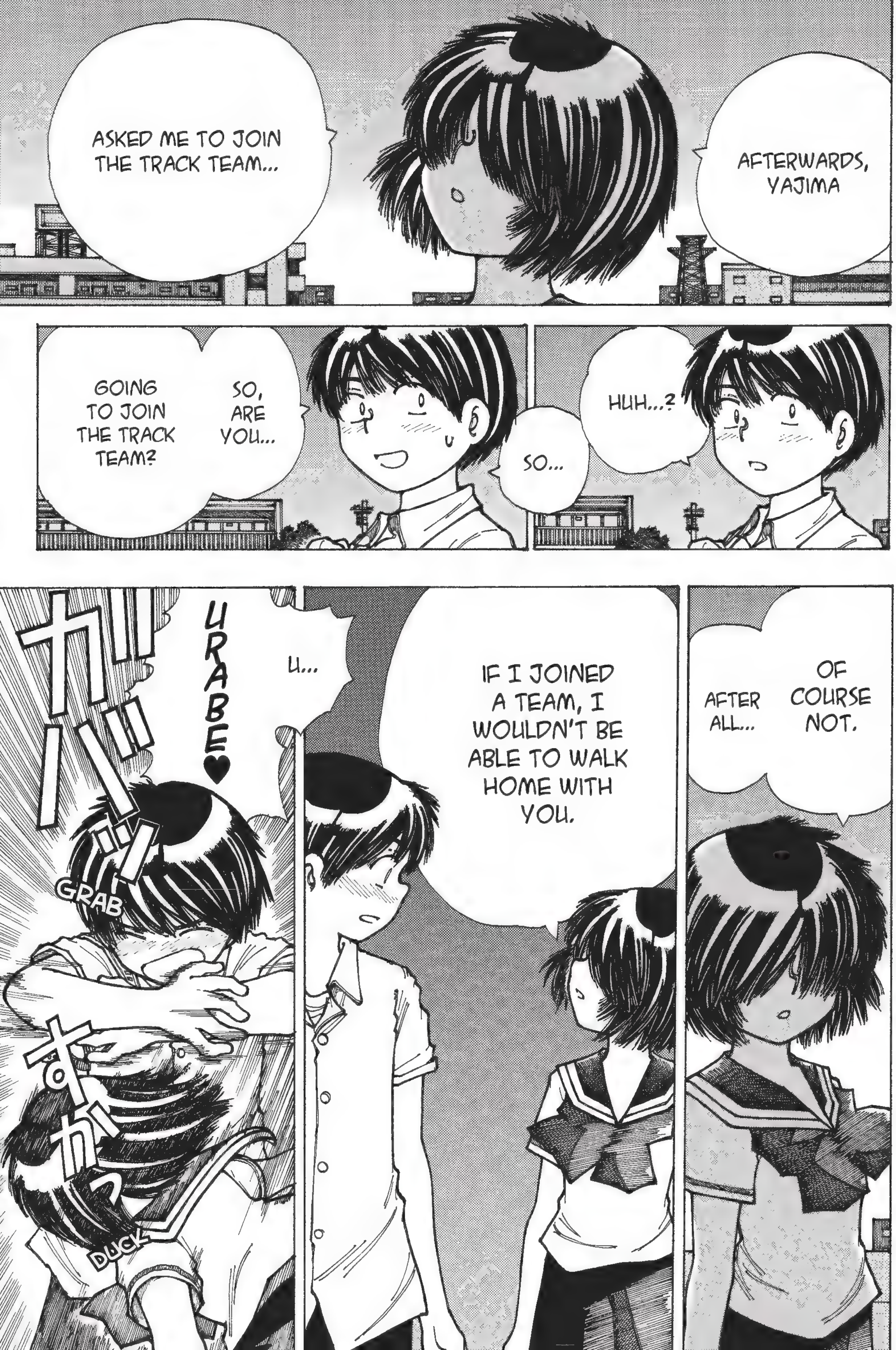
END OF CHAPTER 16

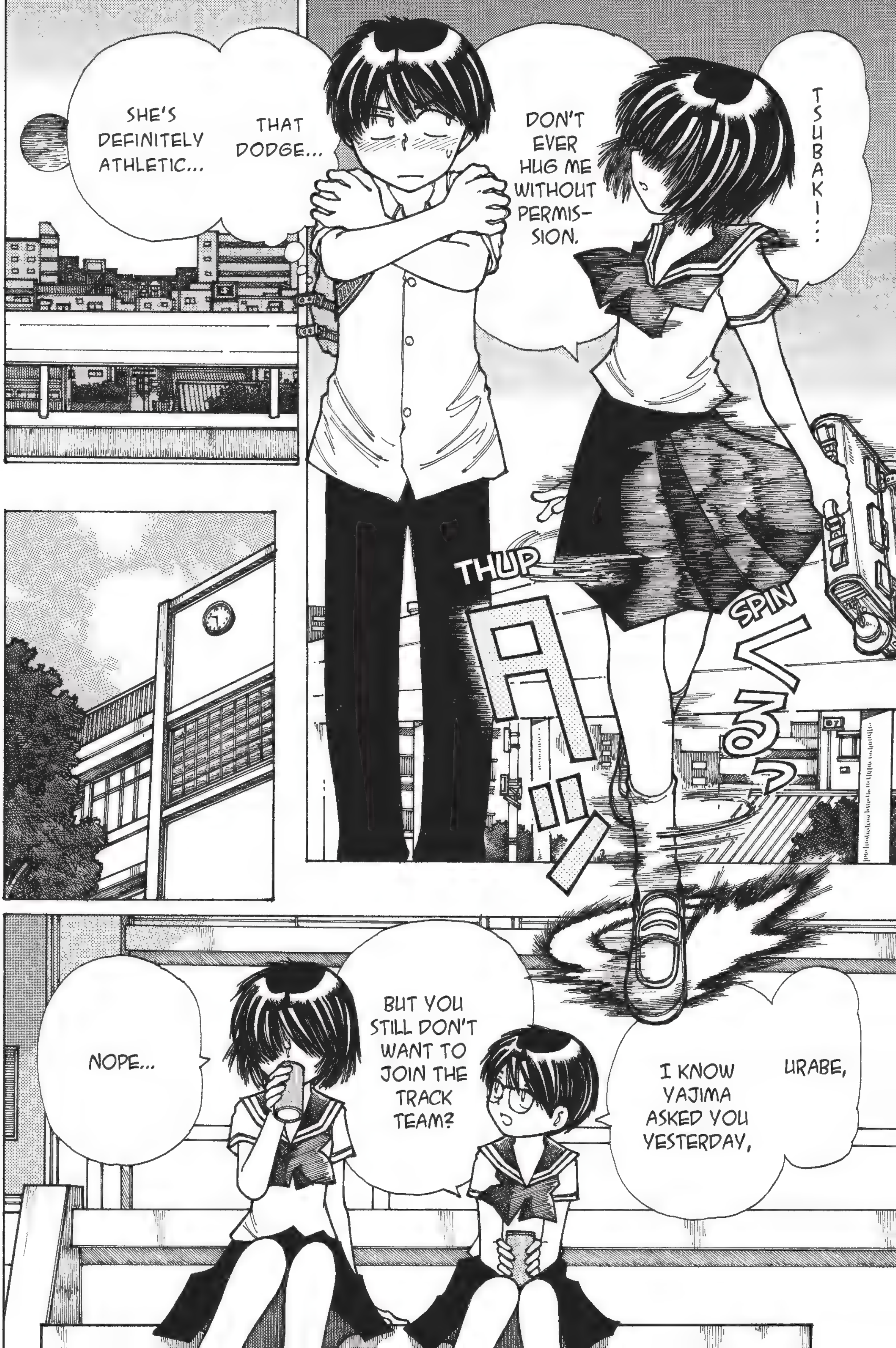
CHAPTER 17: MYSTERIOUS SPORTS FESTIVAL

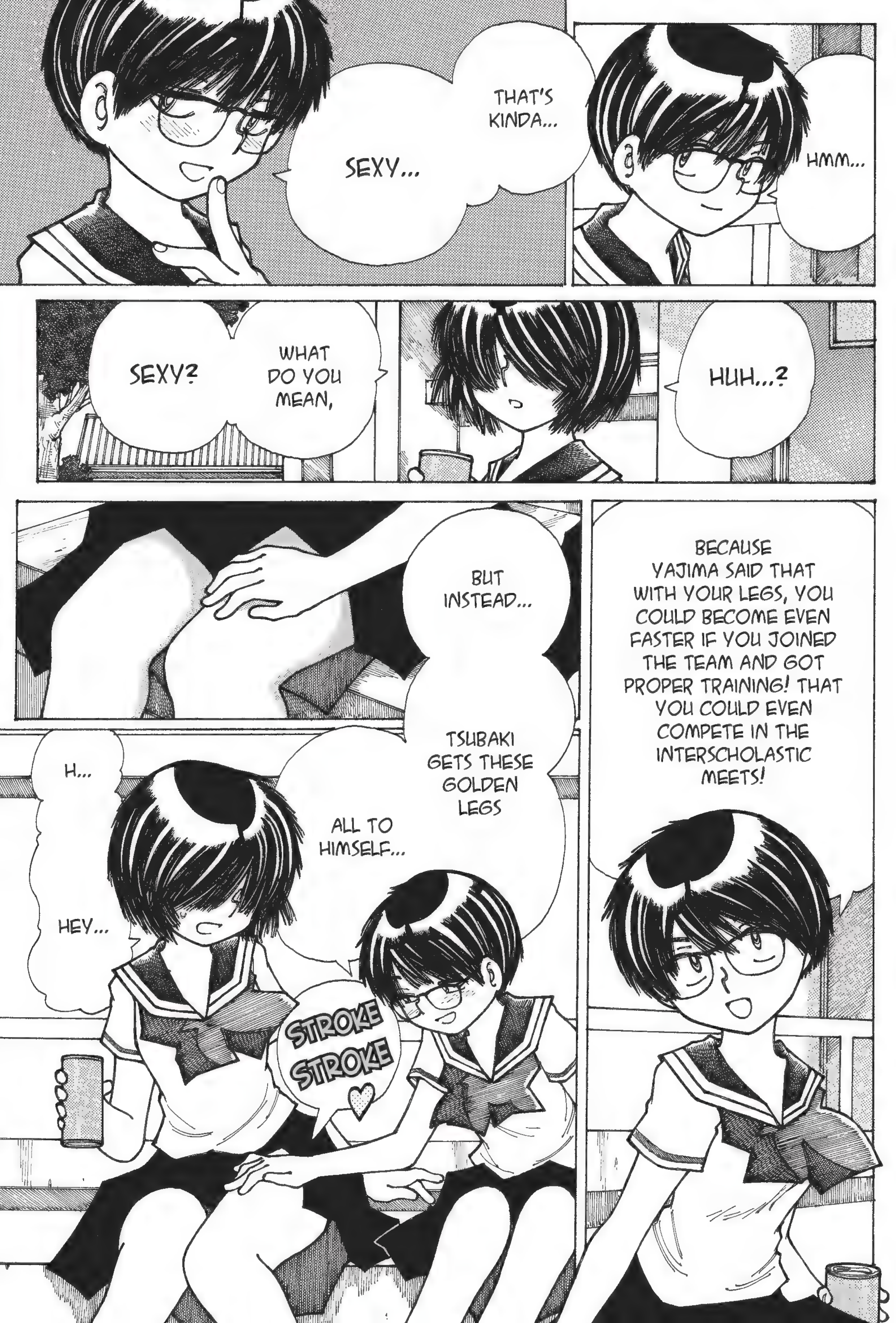

DAASH
ダーッ
AMAZING, URABE!
ZHAA
ザザッ
YOU'RE SO FAST!
YOU WERE NECK-AND-NECK WITH YAJIMA!
HAA
HAA

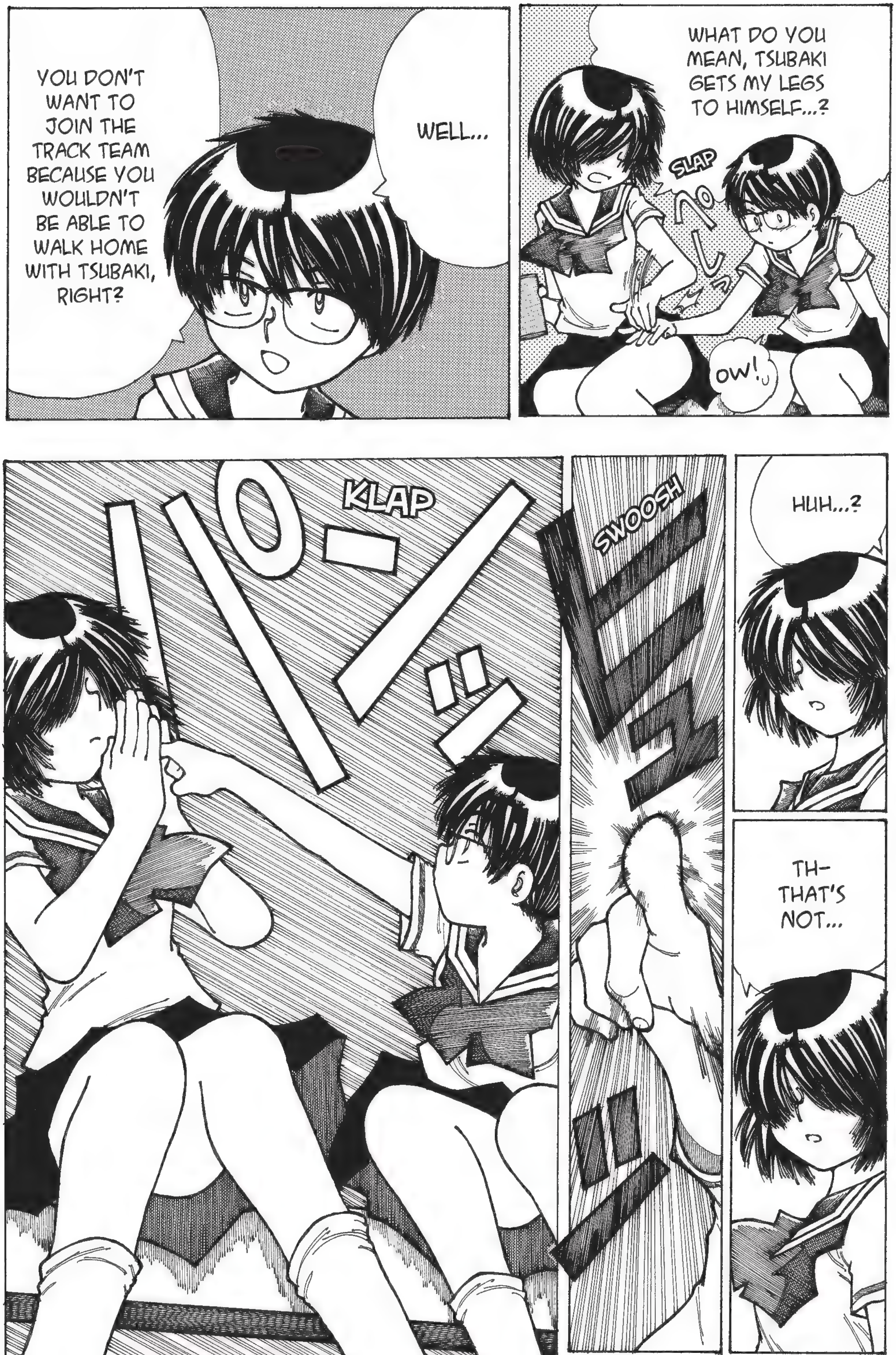

I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!
I'M ON THE TRACK TEAM,
AND I ALMOST LOST TO SOMEONE WHO DOESN'T PLAY SPORTS AT ALL...
URABE, WHY DON'T YOU DO TRACK?
WITH YOUR SPEED, IT'D BE A WASTE NOT TO.
I'M NOT INTERESTED IN BEING ON A TEAM...
I SEE... OH, BUT...
SINCE YOU AND I FINISHED FIRST AND SECOND,
THAT MEANS WE'LL REPRESENT OUR CLASS IN THE RELAY RACE AT THE SPORTS FESTIVAL!

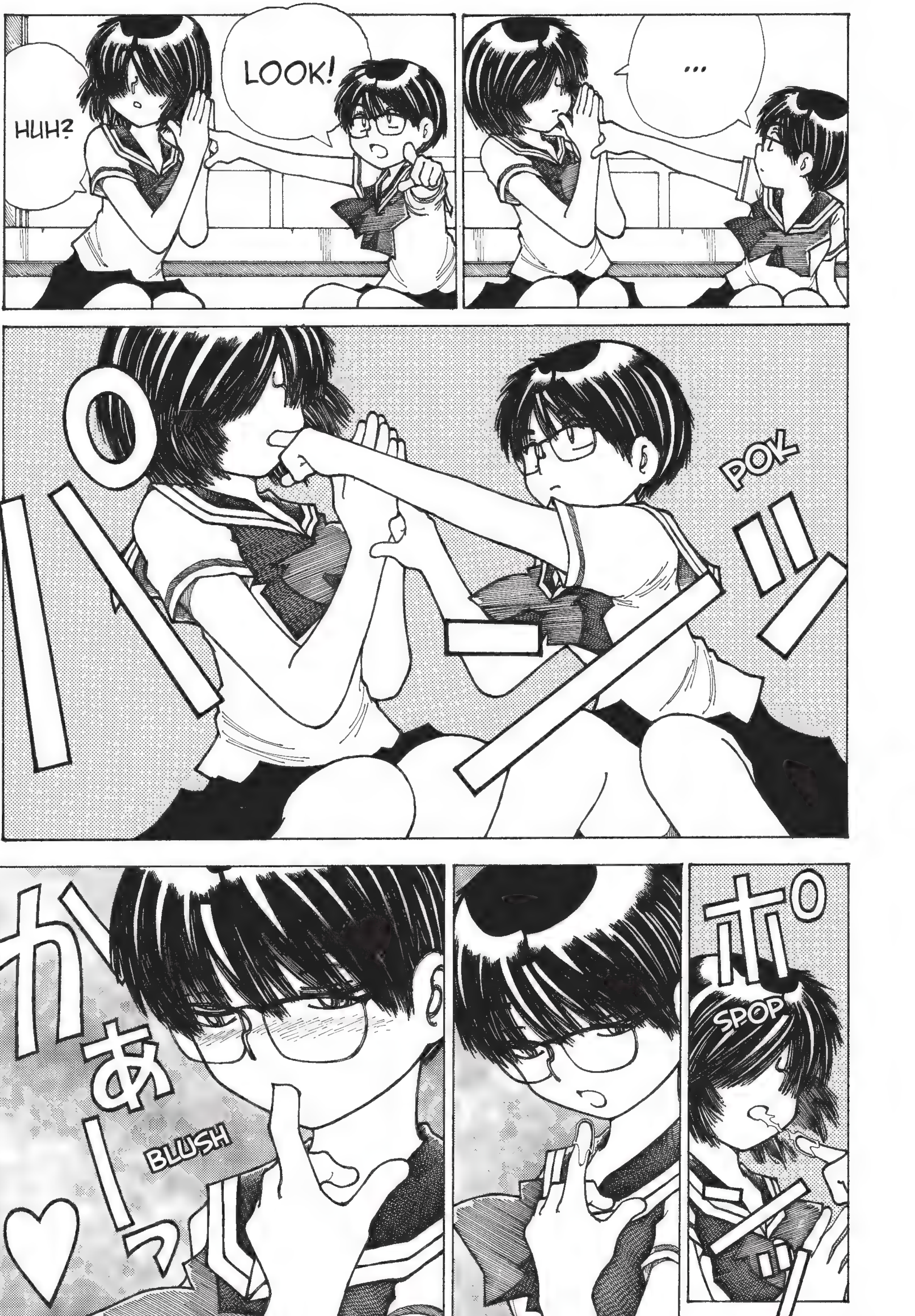

I HEARD FROM A SPORTS FESTIVAL COMMITTEE MEMBER
THAT FOR THE GIRLS' RELAY,
YOU AND YAJIMA ARE REPPING OUR CLASS?
YEAH...
WOW,
THAT'S AMAZING!
YAJIMA IS A SPRINTER ON THE TRACK TEAM WHO PLACES HIGH IN CITY TRACK MEETS,
AND YOU WERE RIGHT BEHIND HER?
YAJIMA
YEAH...
WOW...
SO URABE'S ACTUALLY PRETTY ATHLETIC...
WELL, CONSIDERING HER SKILLS WITH THOSE PANTY SCISSORS,
SNIP
WAAH!!
SNIP SNIP
SHE HAS TO BE ATHLETIC TO PULL THAT OFF...

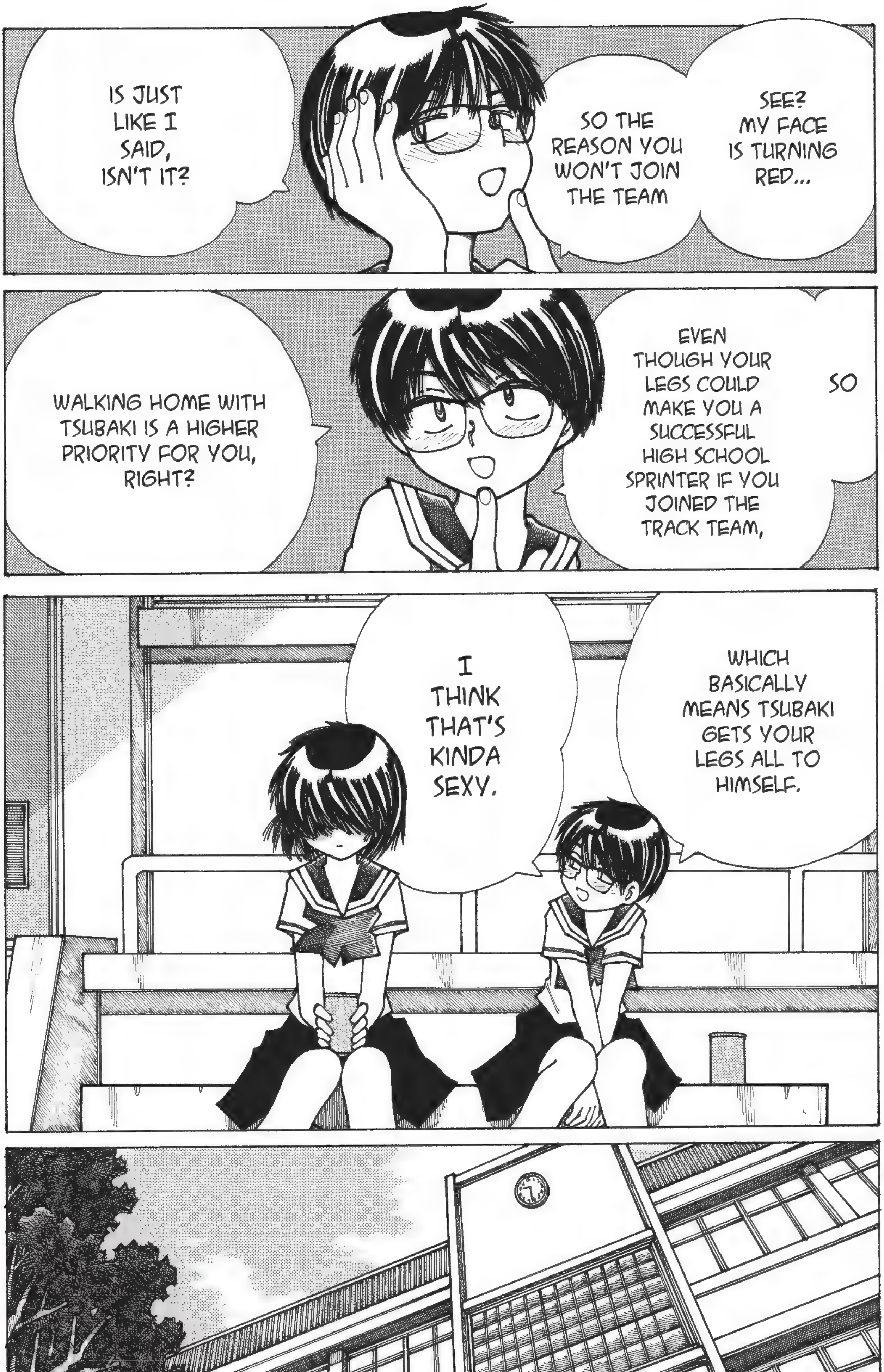

AFTERWARDS, YAJIMA
ASKED ME TO JOIN THE TRACK TEAM...
HUH...?
SO...
SO, ARE YOU...
GOING TO JOIN THE TRACK TEAM?
OF COURSE NOT.
AFTER ALL...
IF I JOINED A TEAM, I WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO WALK HOME WITH YOU.
U...
URABE♥
ガバッ
GRAB
すかっ
DUCK

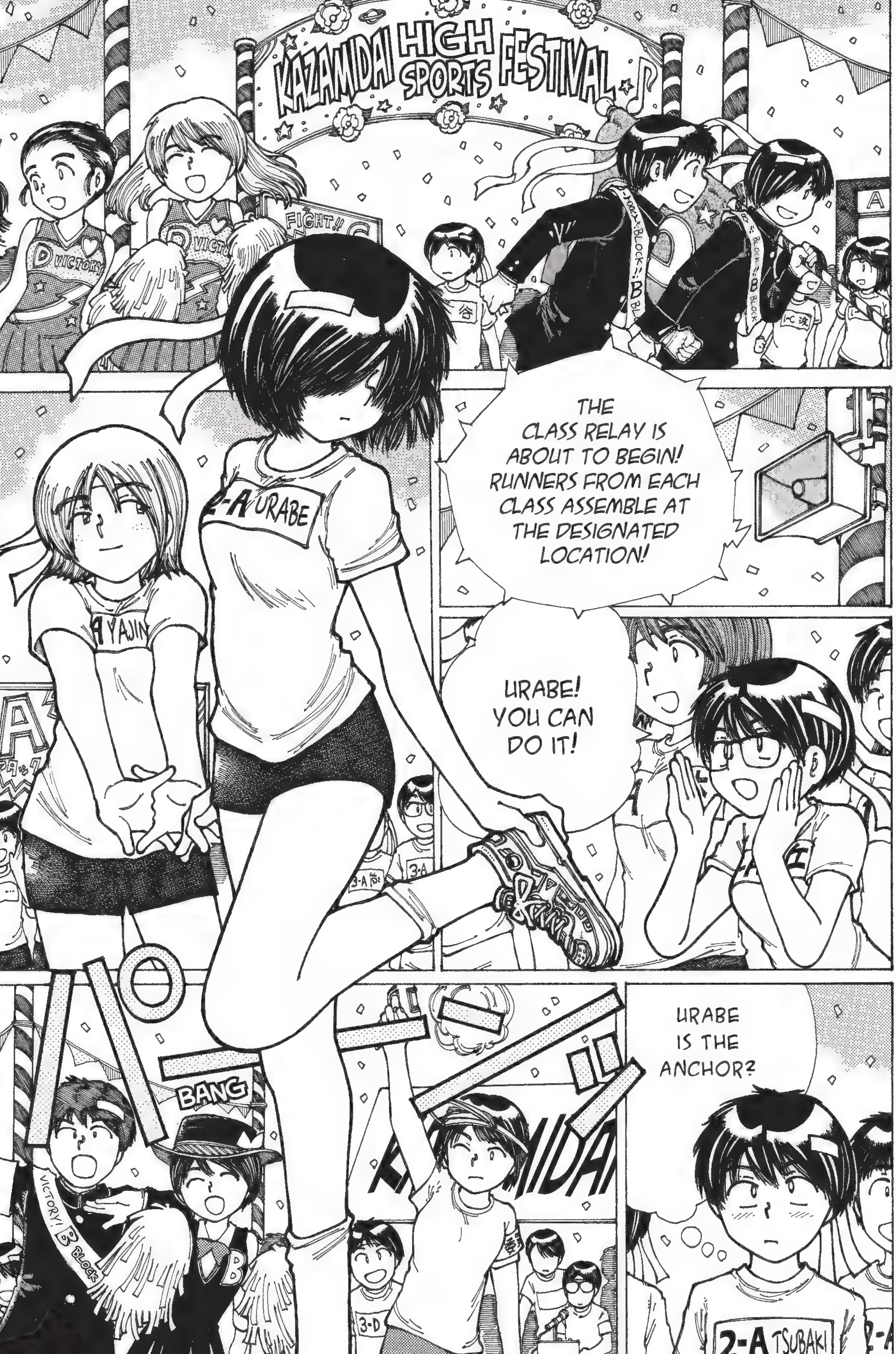

TSUBAKI...
DON'T EVER HUG ME WITHOUT PERMISSION.
THUP
SPIN
くるっ
THAT DODGE...
SHE'S DEFINITELY ATHLETIC...
URABE,
I KNOW YAJIMA ASKED YOU YESTERDAY,
BUT YOU STILL DON'T WANT TO JOIN THE TRACK TEAM?
NOPE...

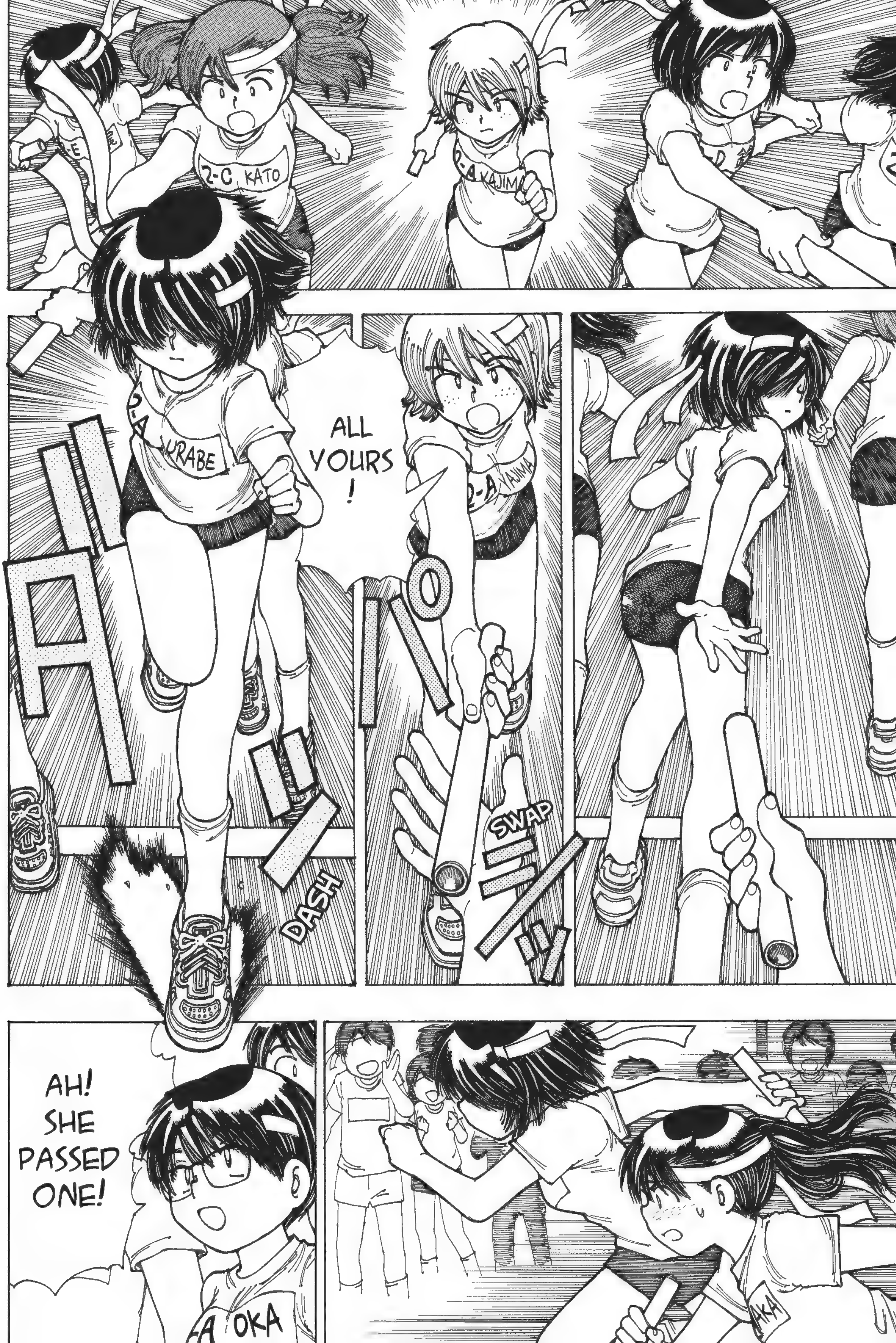

HMM...
THAT'S KINDA...
SEXY...
HUH...?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN,
SEXY?
BECAUSE YAJIMA SAID THAT WITH YOUR LEGS, YOU COULD BECOME EVEN FASTER IF YOU JOINED THE TEAM AND GOT PROPER TRAINING! THAT YOU COULD EVEN COMPETE IN THE INTERSCHOLASTIC MEETS!
BUT INSTEAD...
TSUBAKI GETS THESE GOLDEN LEGS
ALL TO HIMSELF...
STROKE STROKE ♡
H...
HEY...

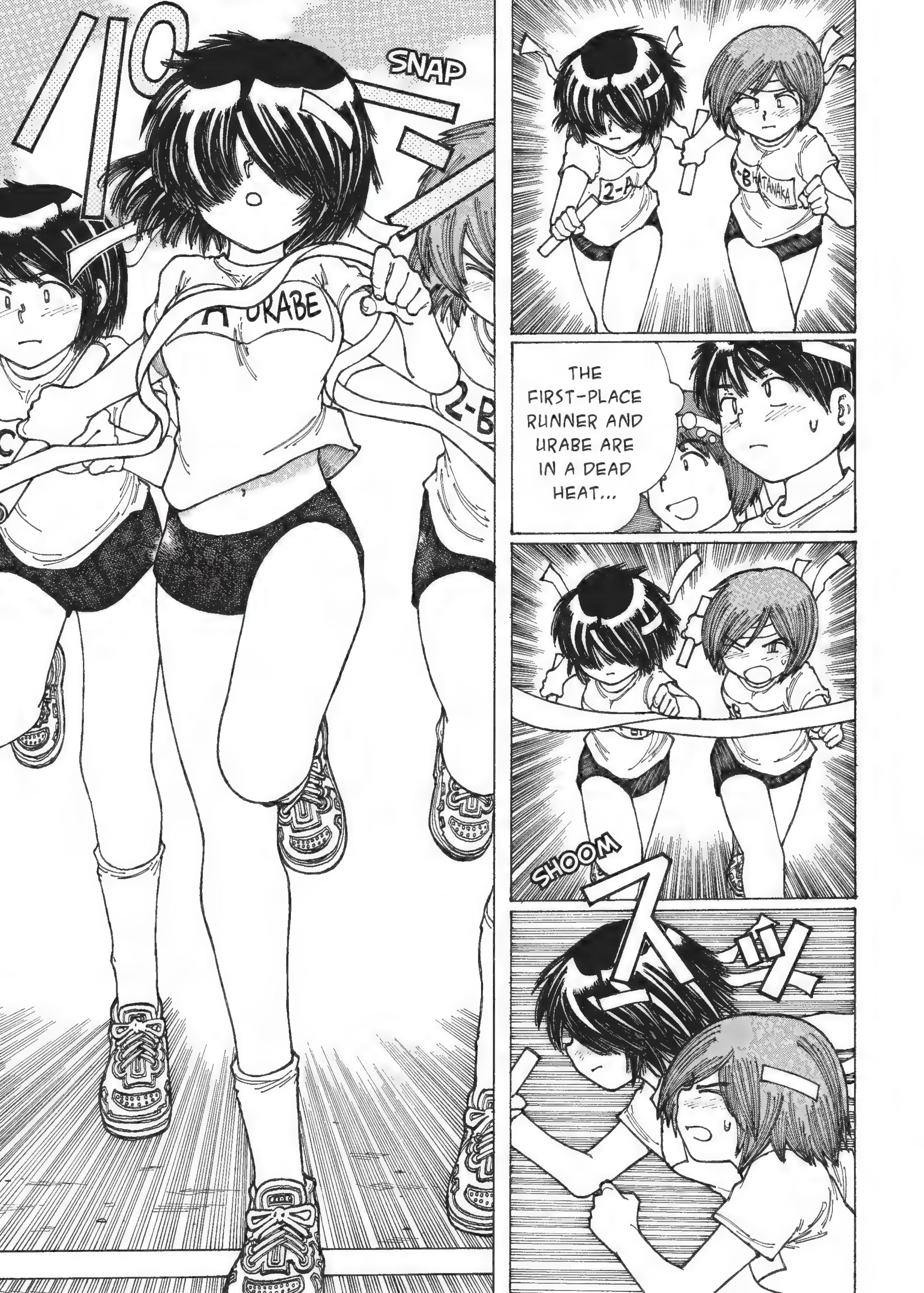

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, TSUBAKI GETS MY LEGS TO HIMSELF...?
SLAP
OW!
YOU DON'T WANT TO JOIN THE TRACK TEAM BECAUSE YOU WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO WALK HOME WITH TSUBAKI, RIGHT?
WELL...
HUH...?
SWOOSH
KLAP
TH- THAT'S NOT...

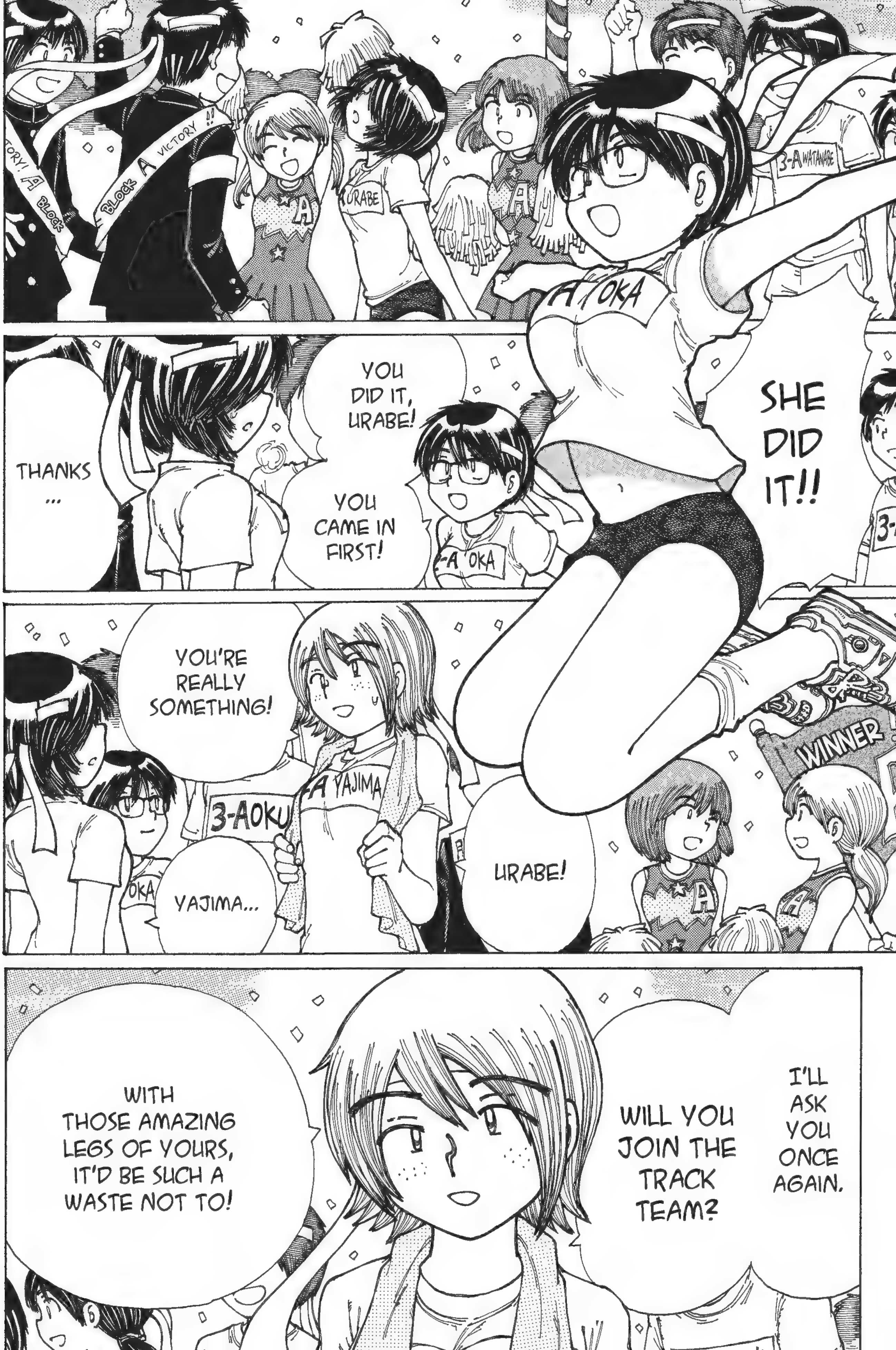

LOOK!
HUH?
...
パクッ
POK
ポッ
SPOP
かぁーっ♥
BLUSH

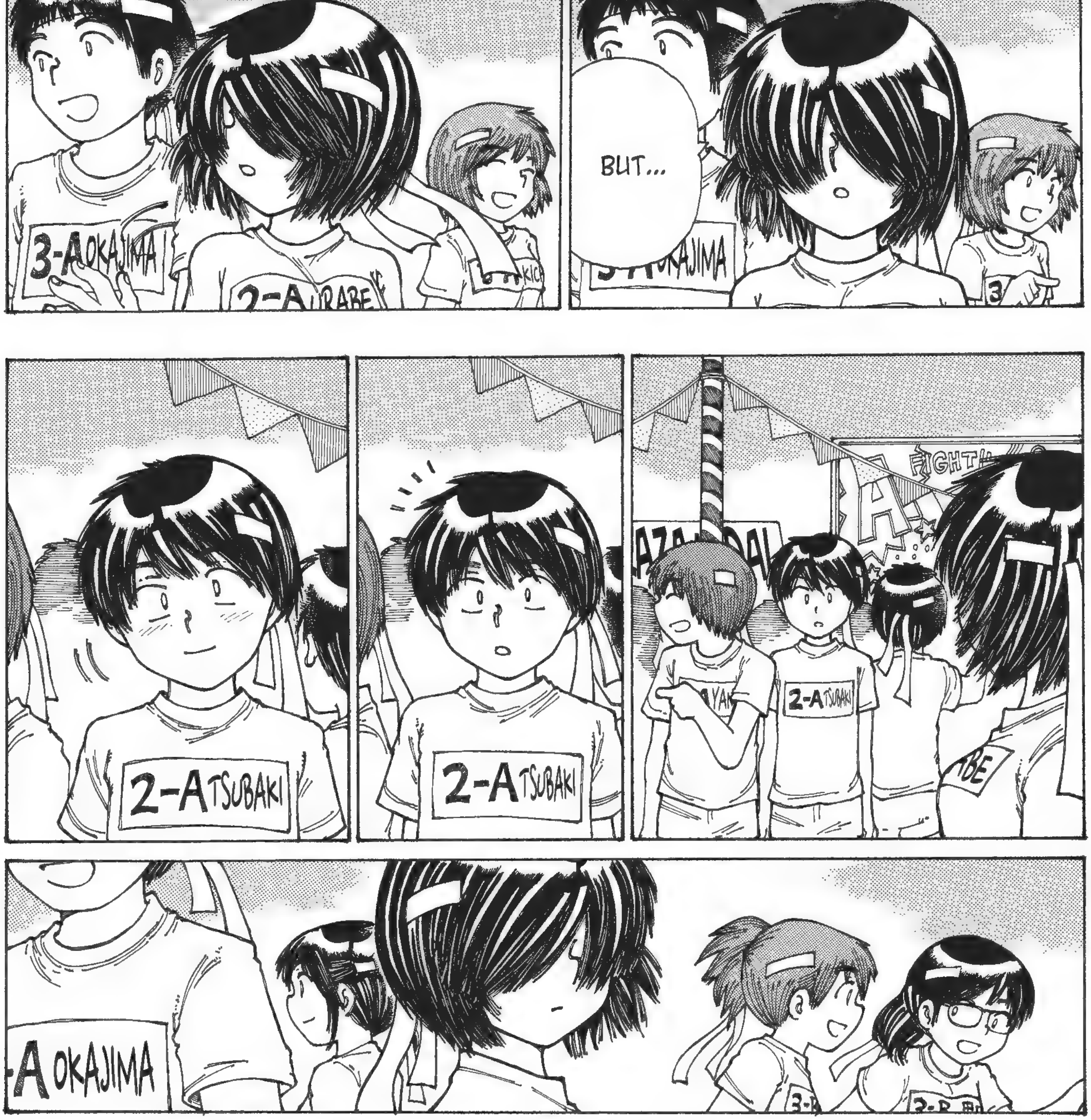

SEE? MY FACE IS TURNING RED...
SO THE REASON YOU WON'T JOIN THE TEAM
IS JUST LIKE I SAID, ISN'T IT?
SO
EVEN THOUGH YOUR LEGS COULD MAKE YOU A SUCCESSFUL HIGH SCHOOL SPRINTER IF YOU JOINED THE TRACK TEAM,
WALKING HOME WITH TSUBAKI IS A HIGHER PRIORITY FOR YOU, RIGHT?
WHICH BASICALLY MEANS TSUBAKI GETS YOUR LEGS ALL TO HIMSELF.
I THINK THAT'S KINDA SEXY.


KAZAMIDAI HIGH SPORTS FESTIVAL ♪
FIGHT!!
B BLOCK
VICTORY
2-A URABE
YAJIMA
THE CLASS RELAY IS ABOUT TO BEGIN! RUNNERS FROM EACH CLASS ASSEMBLE AT THE DESIGNATED LOCATION!
URABE! YOU CAN DO IT!
URABE IS THE ANCHOR?
BANG
KAZAMIDAI
VICTORY! B BLOCK
3-A
3-D
2-A TSUBAKI

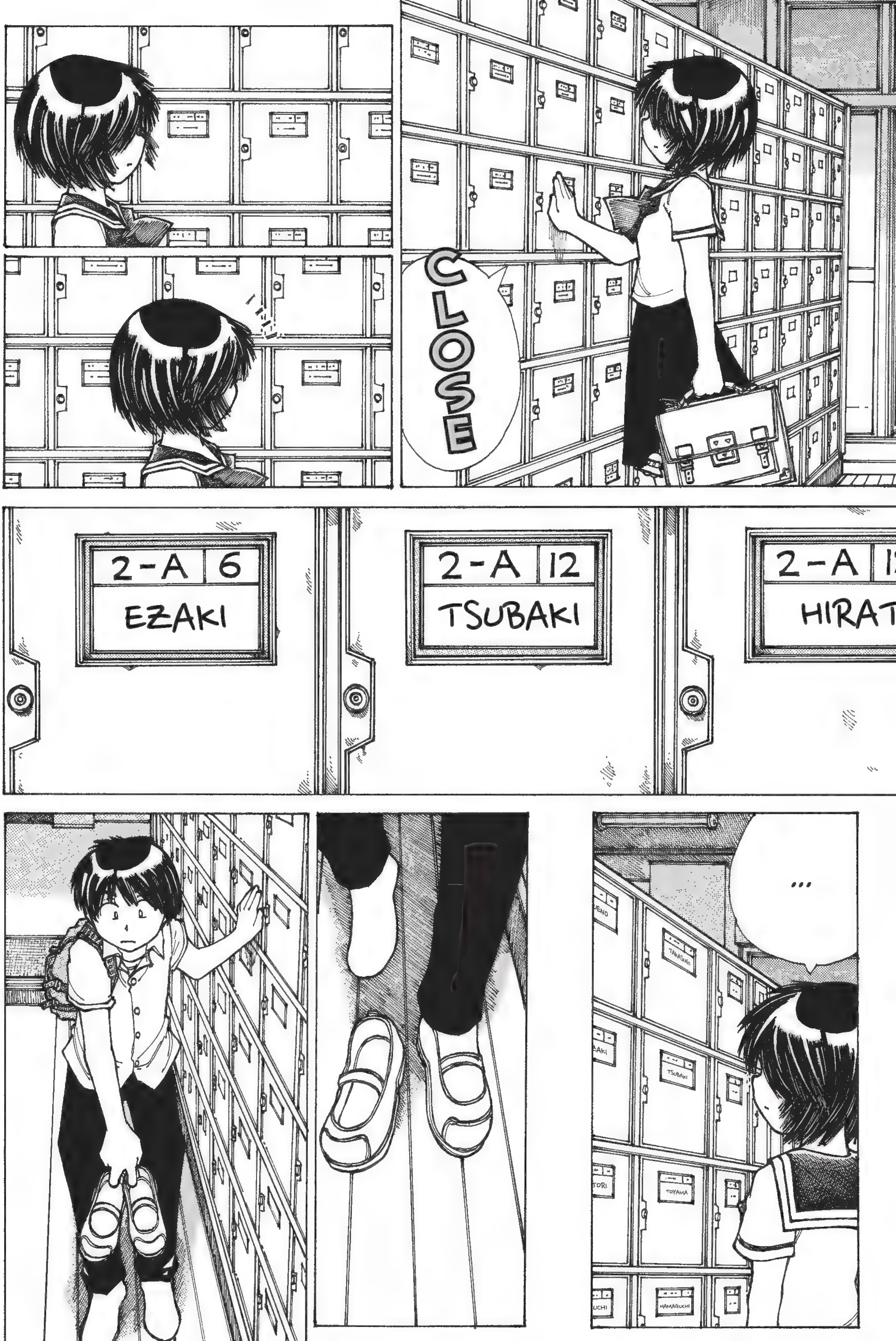

D
2-A KAJIMA
2-C KATO
E
ALL YOURS!
2-A KAJIMA
パッ
SWAP
2-A URABE
ダッ
DASH
AKA
AH! SHE PASSED ONE!
A OKA

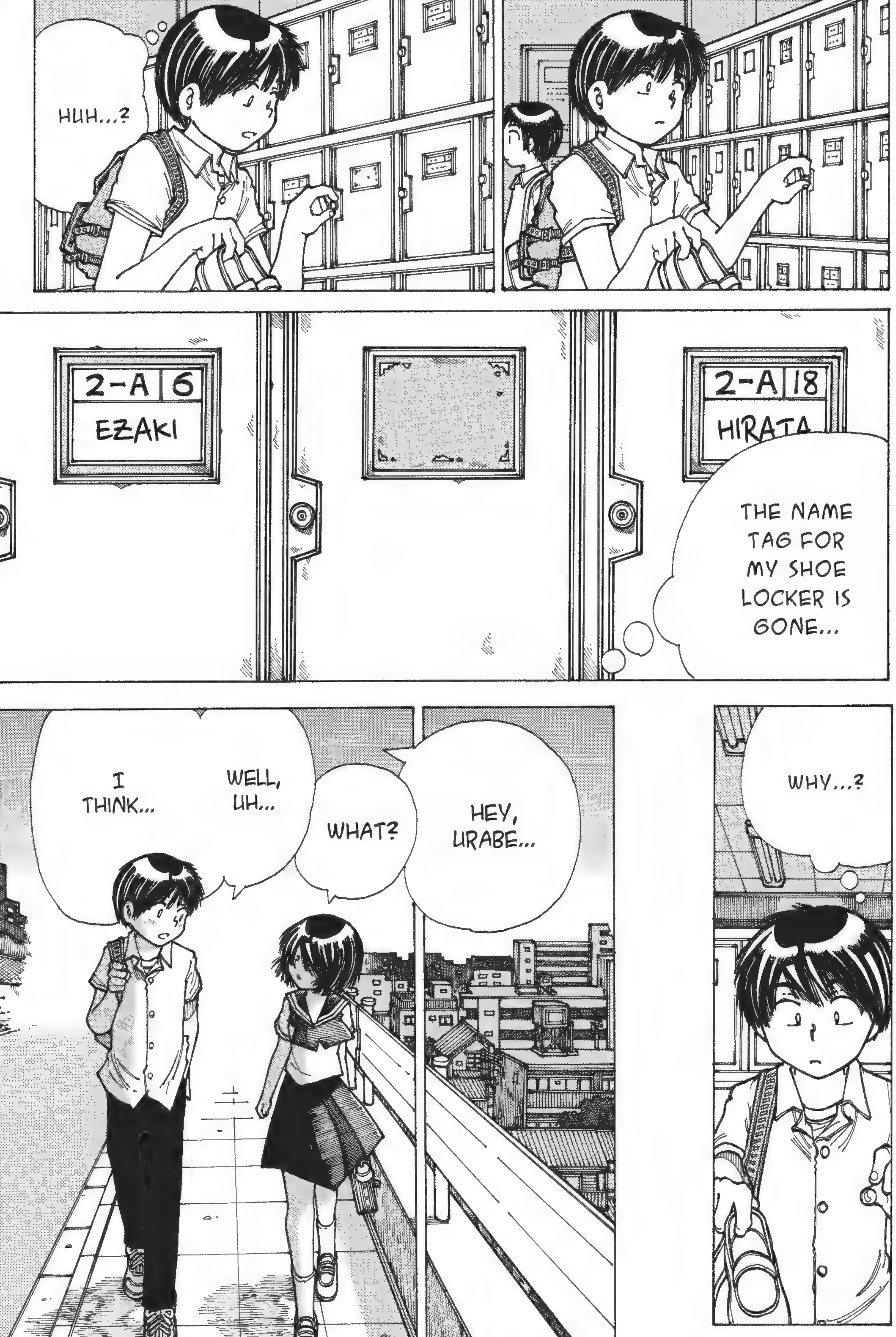

2-A
2-B HATANAKA
THE FIRST-PLACE RUNNER AND URABE ARE IN A DEAD HEAT...
SHOOM
SNAP
A URABE
2-B
C

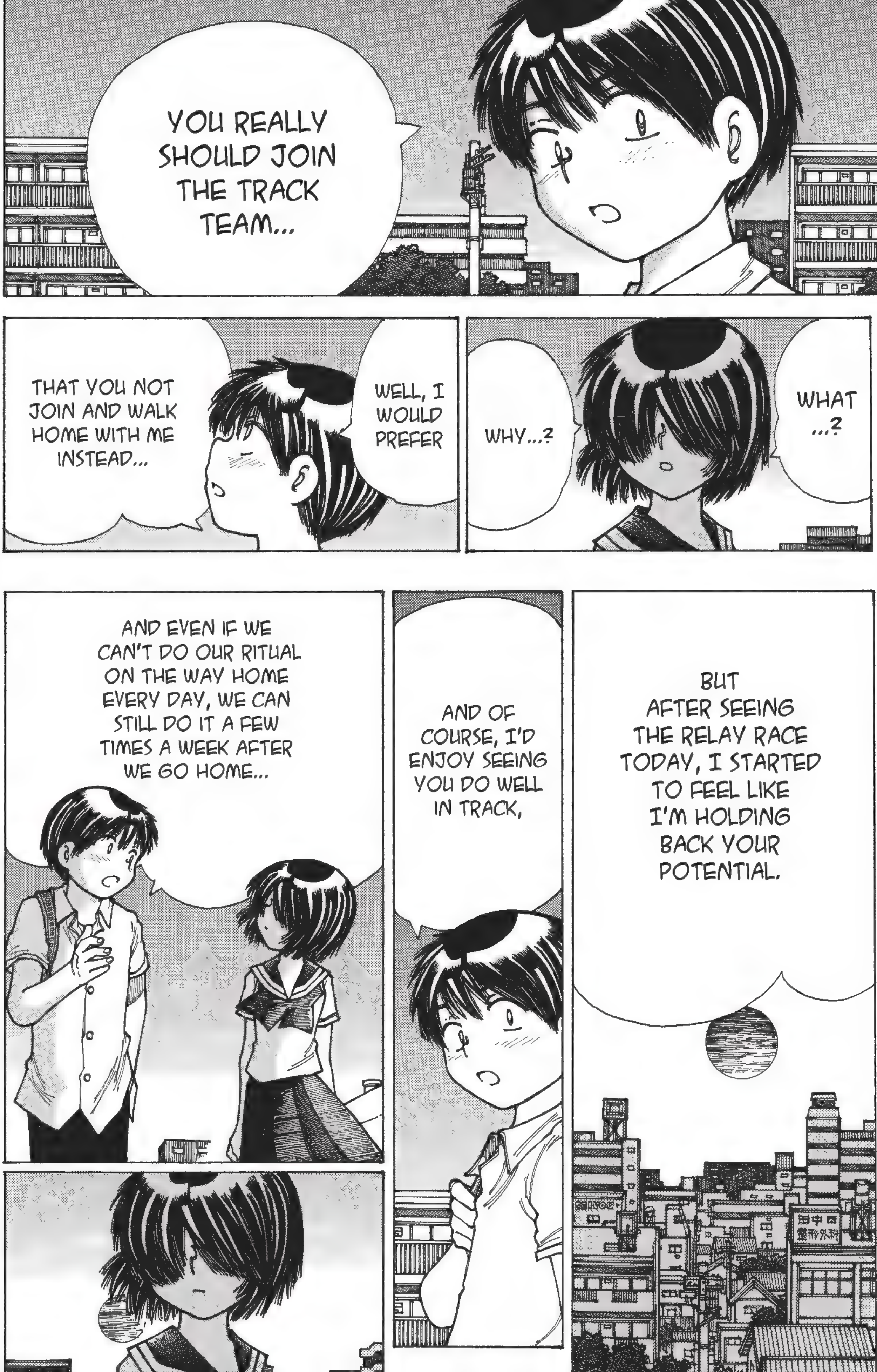

VICTORY!! A BLOCK
VICTORY! A BLOCK
URABE
3-A WATANABE
A OKA
SHE DID IT!!
YOU DID IT, URABE!
YOU CAME IN FIRST!
THANKS ...
-A OKA
WINNER
URABE!
YOU'RE REALLY SOMETHING!
-A YAJIMA
3-A OKU
YAJIMA...
OKA
I'LL ASK YOU ONCE AGAIN.
WILL YOU JOIN THE TRACK TEAM?
WITH THOSE AMAZING LEGS OF YOURS, IT'D BE SUCH A WASTE NOT TO!

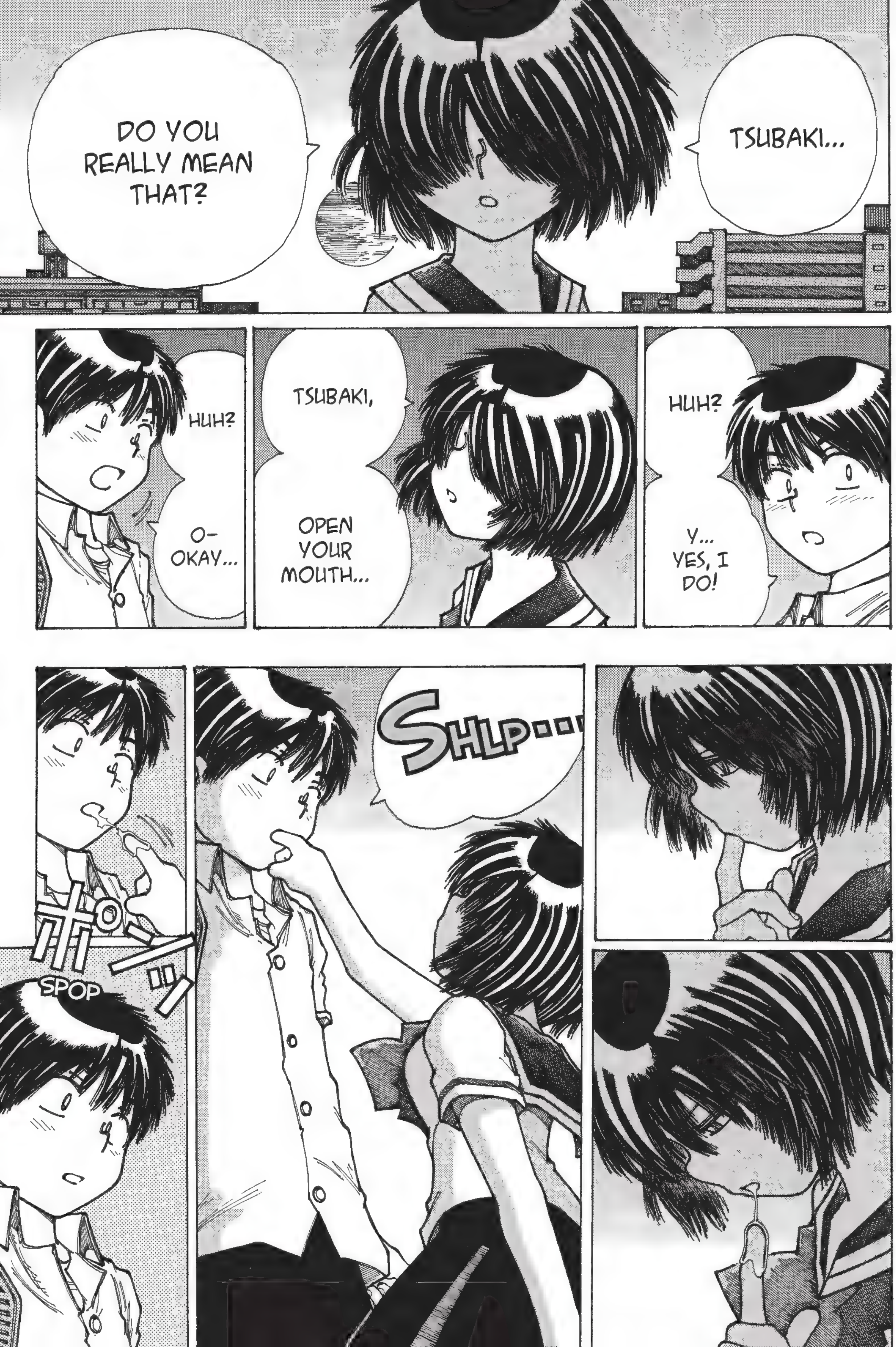

3-A OKAJIMA
2-A RABE
BUT...
3-A OKAJIMA
FIGHT
KAZAMIDAI
2-A TSUBAKI
2-A TSUBAKI
2-A TSUBAKI
-A OKAJIMA

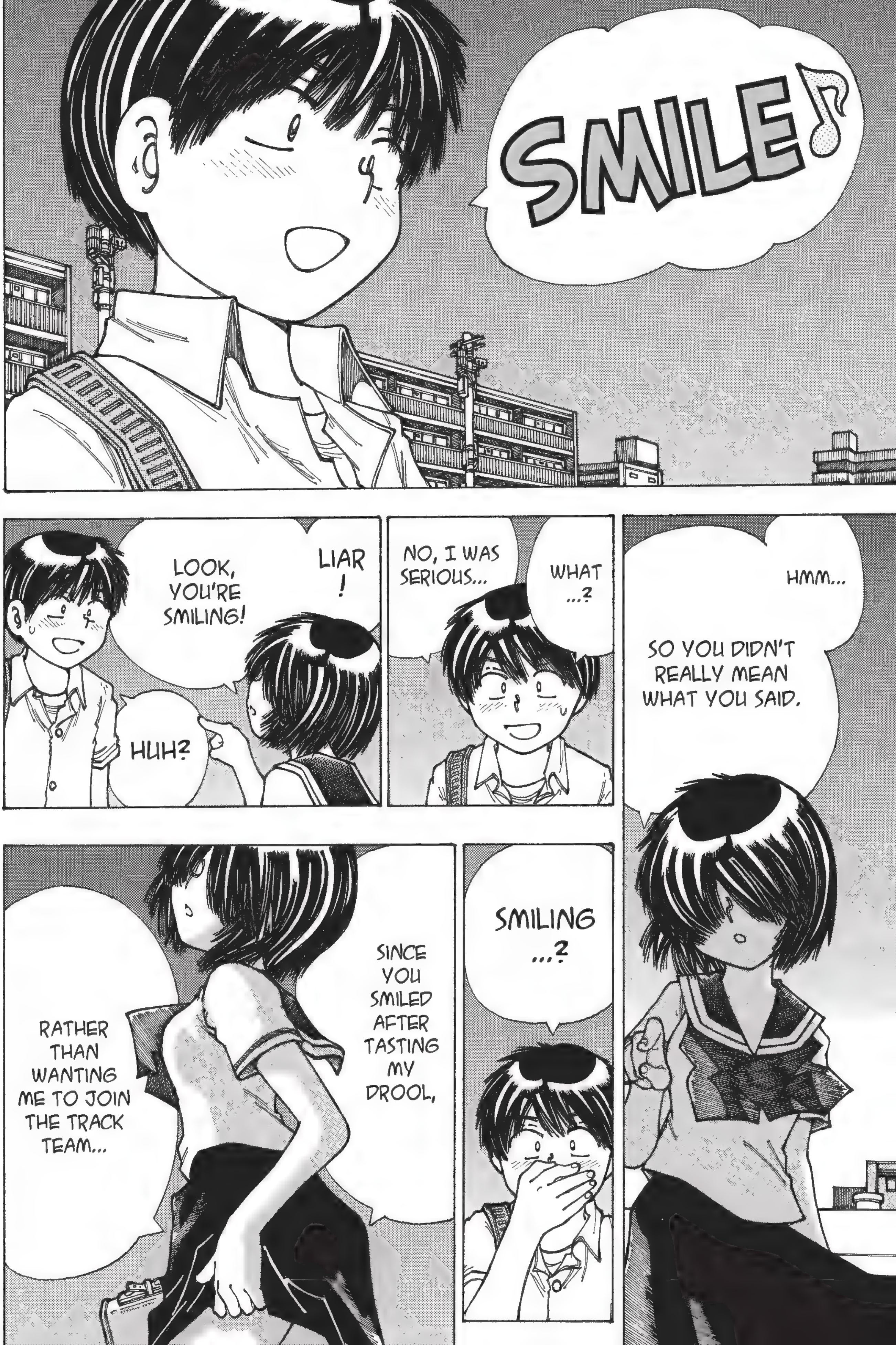
KAZAMIDAI HIGH SPORTS FESTIVAL
VICTORY! C BLOCK
A 65
B 54

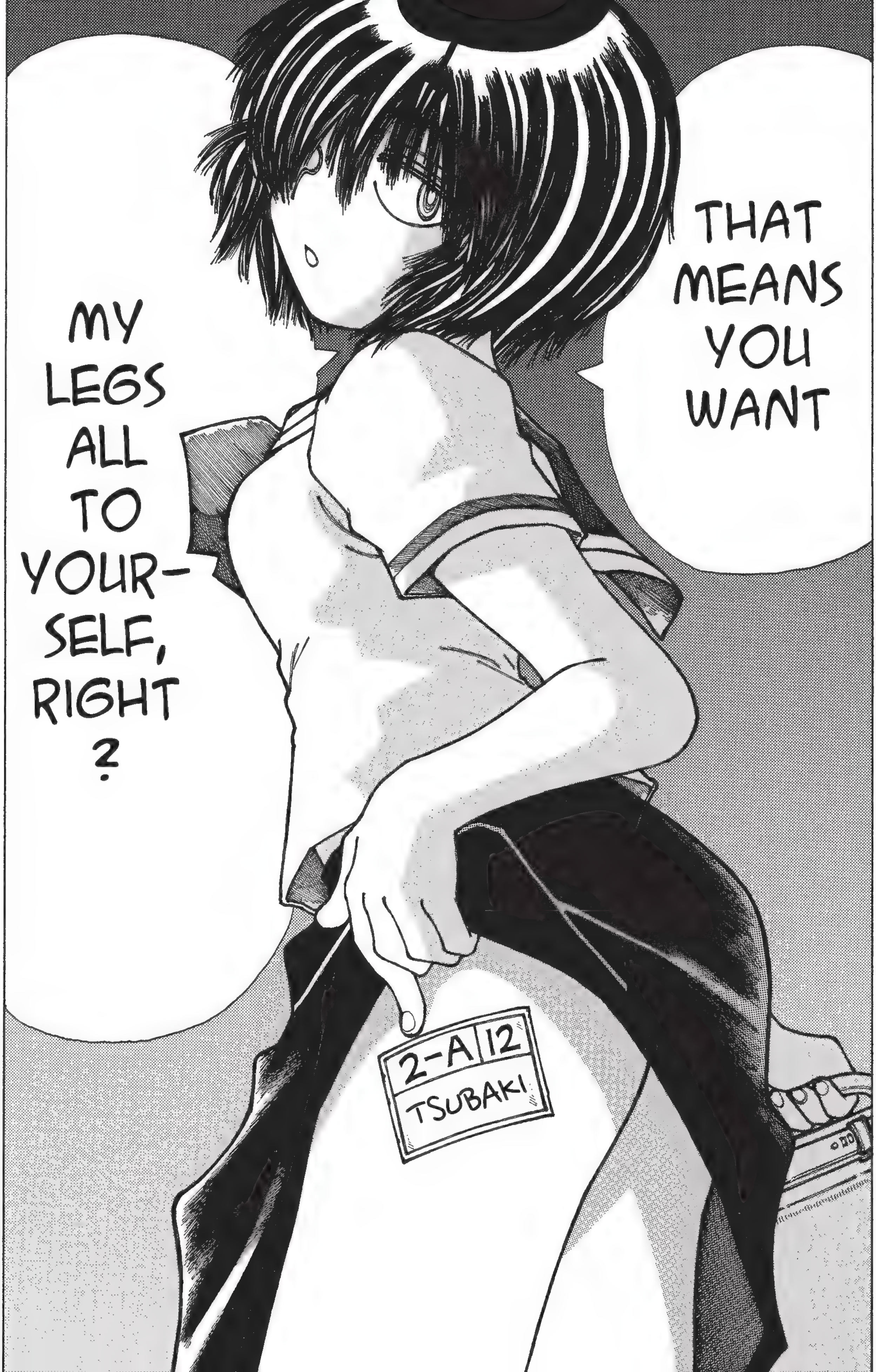

CLOSE
2-A 6
EZAKI
2-A 12
TSUBAKI
2-A 1
HIRAT
...
UENO
TAKAGUCHI
TSUBAKI
TOYAMA
HAMAGUCHI

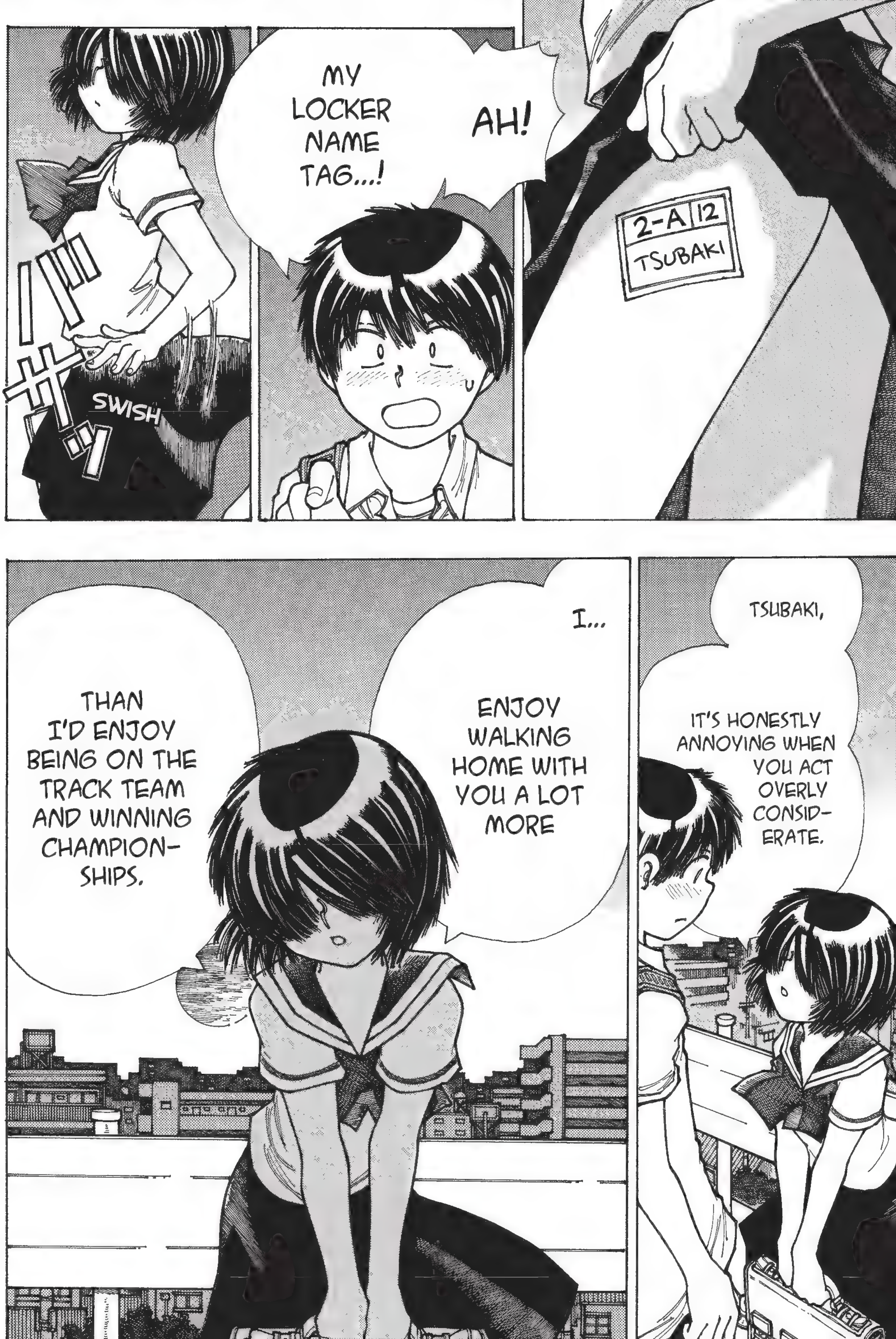

HUH...?
2-A 18
HIRATA
2-A 6
EZAKI
THE NAME TAG FOR MY SHOE LOCKER IS GONE...
WHY...?
HEY, URABE...
WHAT?
WELL, UH...
I THINK...

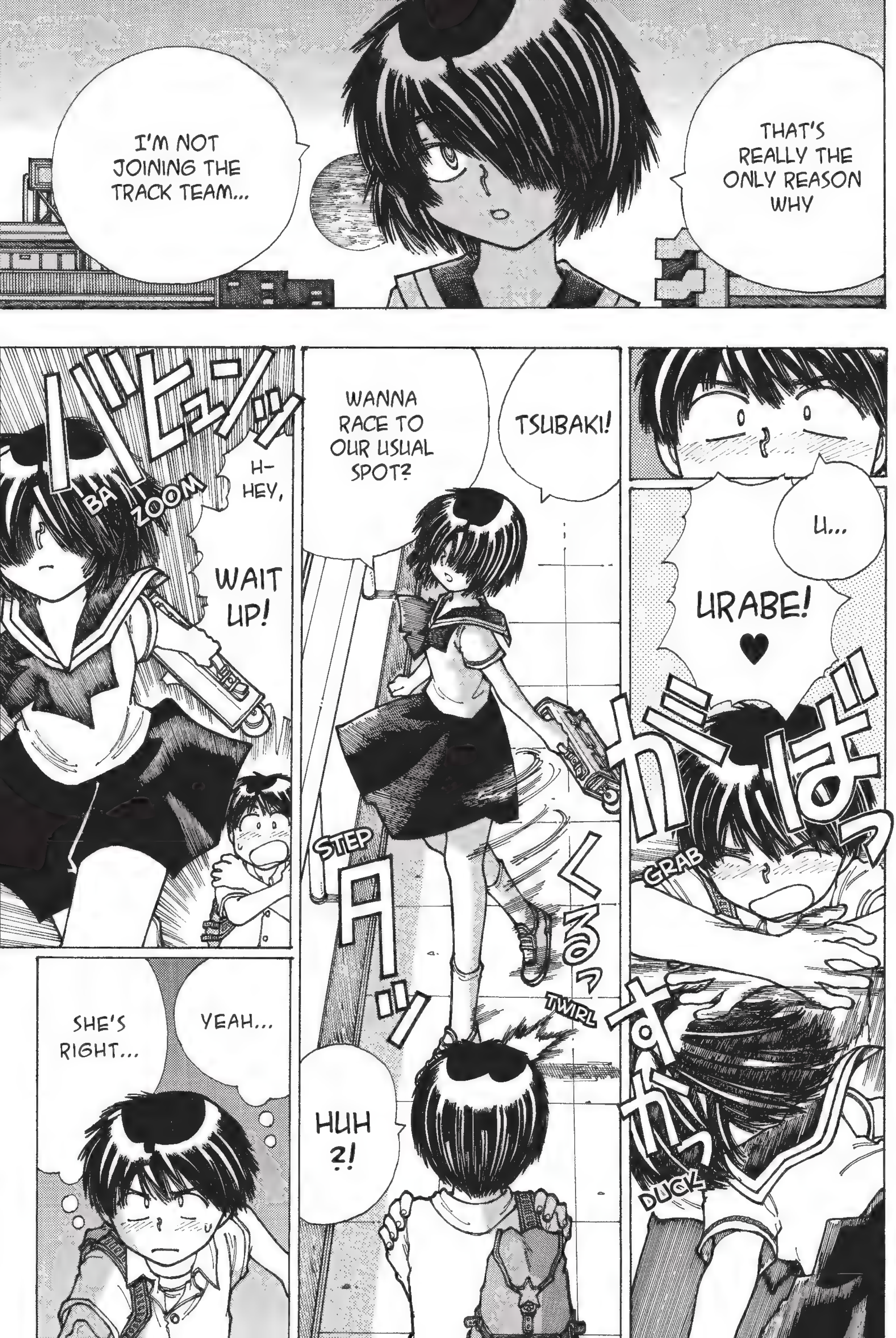

YOU REALLY SHOULD JOIN THE TRACK TEAM...
WHAT ...?
WHY...?
WELL, I WOULD PREFER
THAT YOU NOT JOIN AND WALK HOME WITH ME INSTEAD...
BUT AFTER SEEING THE RELAY RACE TODAY, I STARTED TO FEEL LIKE I'M HOLDING BACK YOUR POTENTIAL.
AND OF COURSE, I'D ENJOY SEEING YOU DO WELL IN TRACK,
AND EVEN IF WE CAN'T DO OUR RITUAL ON THE WAY HOME EVERY DAY, WE CAN STILL DO IT A FEW TIMES A WEEK AFTER WE GO HOME...

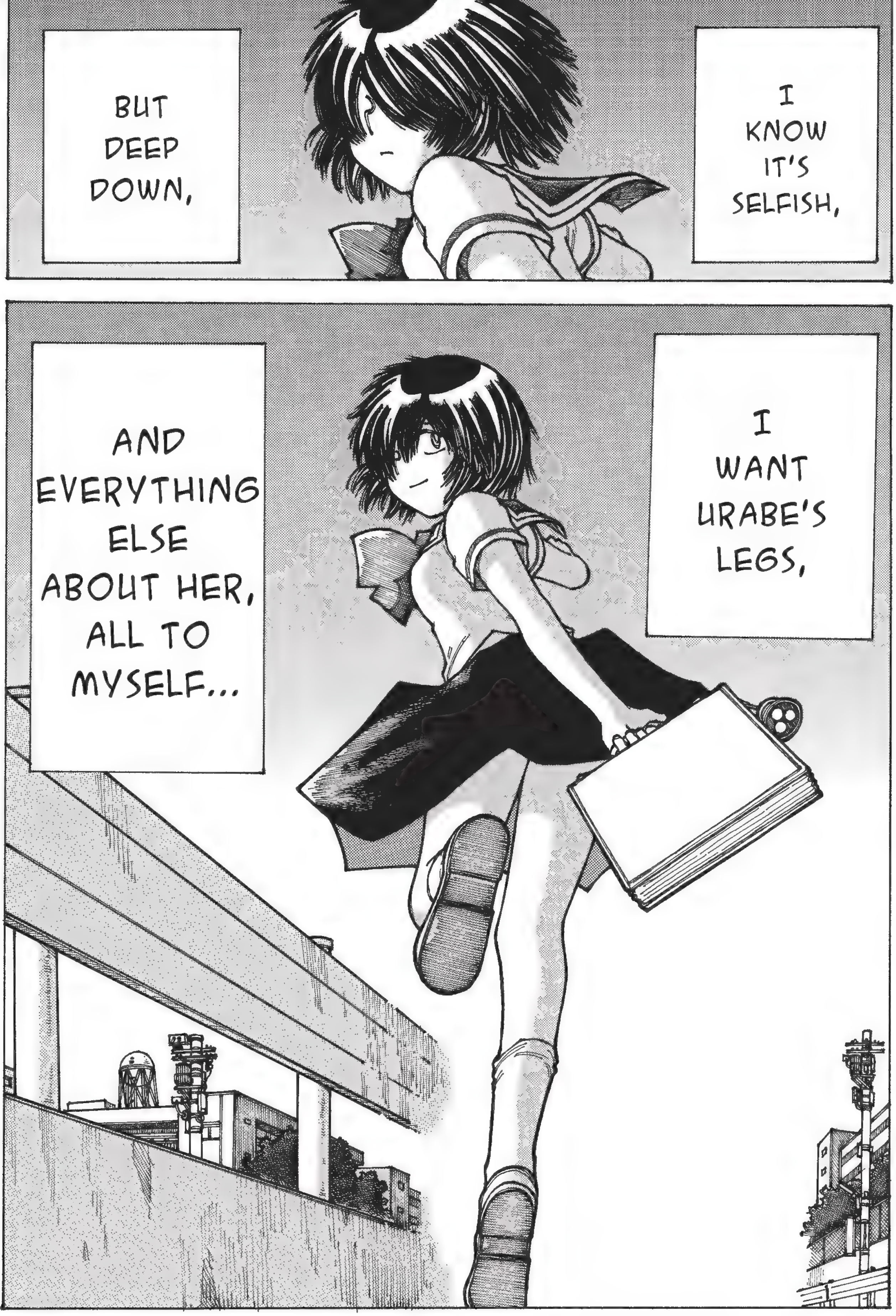

TSUBAKI...
DO YOU REALLY MEAN THAT?
HUH?
Y... YES, I DO!
TSUBAKI,
OPEN YOUR MOUTH...
HUH?
O-OKAY...
SHLP...
SPOP


SMILE♪
HMM...
SO YOU DIDN'T REALLY MEAN WHAT YOU SAID.
WHAT ...?
NO, I WAS SERIOUS...
LIAR!
LOOK, YOU'RE SMILING!
HUH?
SMILING ...?
SINCE YOU SMILED AFTER TASTING MY DROOL,
RATHER THAN WANTING ME TO JOIN THE TRACK TEAM...


THAT MEANS YOU WANT
MY LEGS ALL TO YOURSELF, RIGHT?
2-A 12
TSUBAKI


2-A 12
TSUBAKI
AH!
MY LOCKER NAME TAG...!
SWISH
TSUBAKI,
IT'S HONESTLY ANNOYING WHEN YOU ACT OVERLY CONSIDERATE.
I...
ENJOY WALKING HOME WITH YOU A LOT MORE
THAN I'D ENJOY BEING ON THE TRACK TEAM AND WINNING CHAMPIONSHIPS.

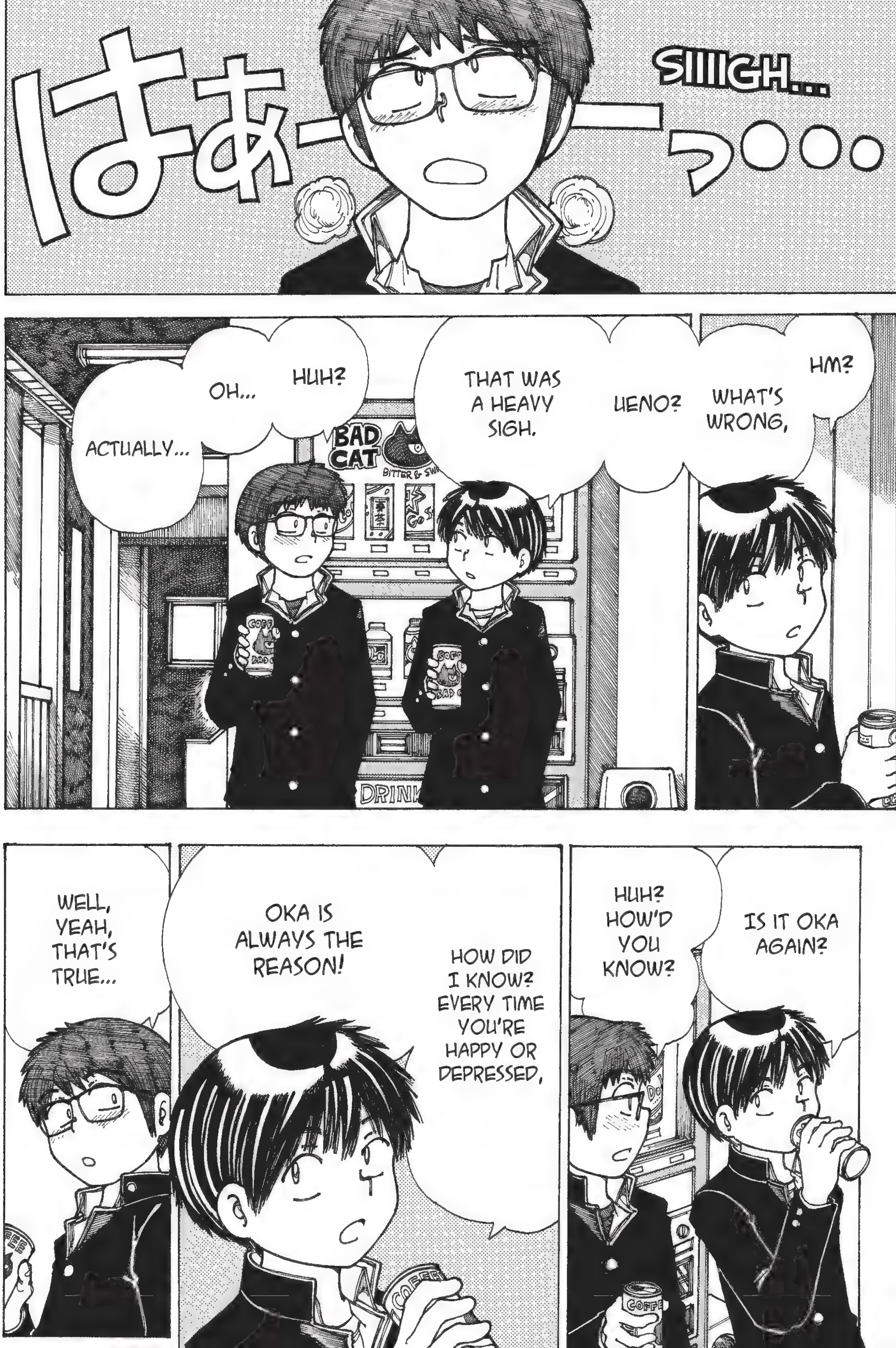

THAT'S REALLY THE ONLY REASON WHY
I'M NOT JOINING THE TRACK TEAM...
U...
URABE! ♥
がばっ
GRAB
すかっ
DUCK
TSUBAKI!
WANNA RACE TO OUR USUAL SPOT?
くるっ
TWIRL
タッ
STEP
HUH?!
バヒューンッ
BA ZOOM
H-HEY, WAIT UP!
YEAH...
SHE'S RIGHT...

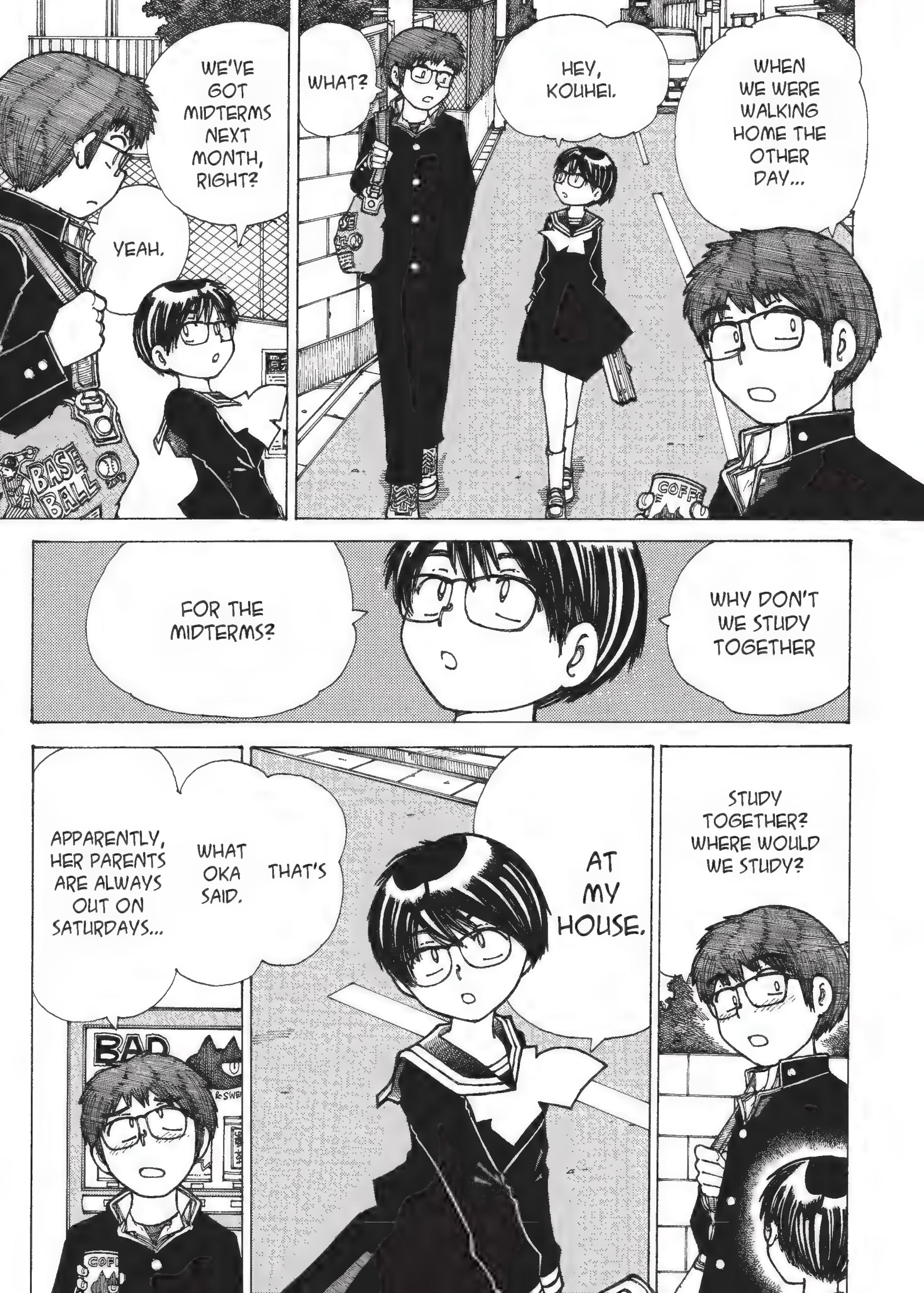

I KNOW IT'S SELFISH,
BUT DEEP DOWN,
I WANT URABE'S LEGS,
AND EVERYTHING ELSE ABOUT HER, ALL TO MYSELF...

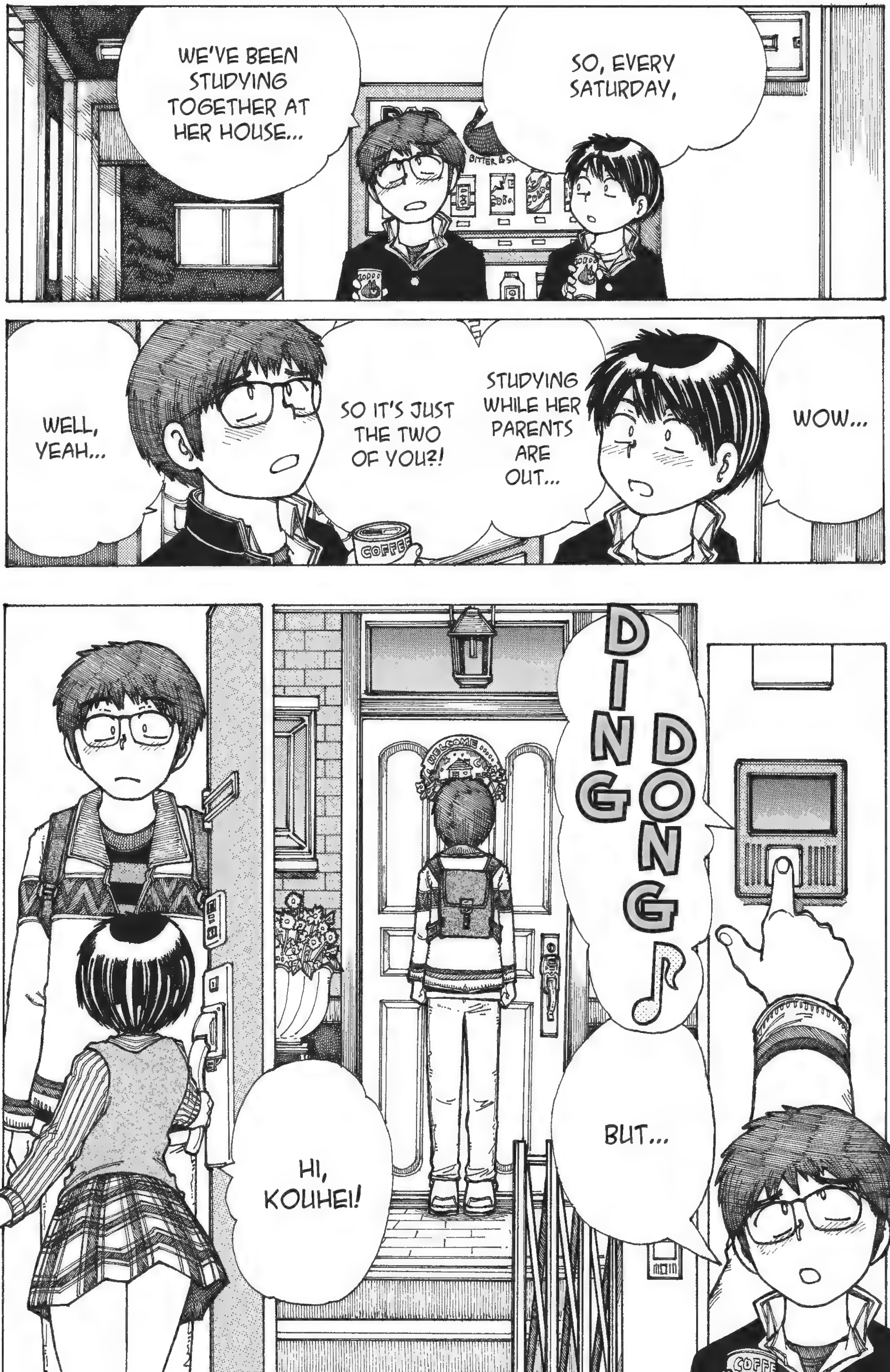
END OF CHAPTER 17

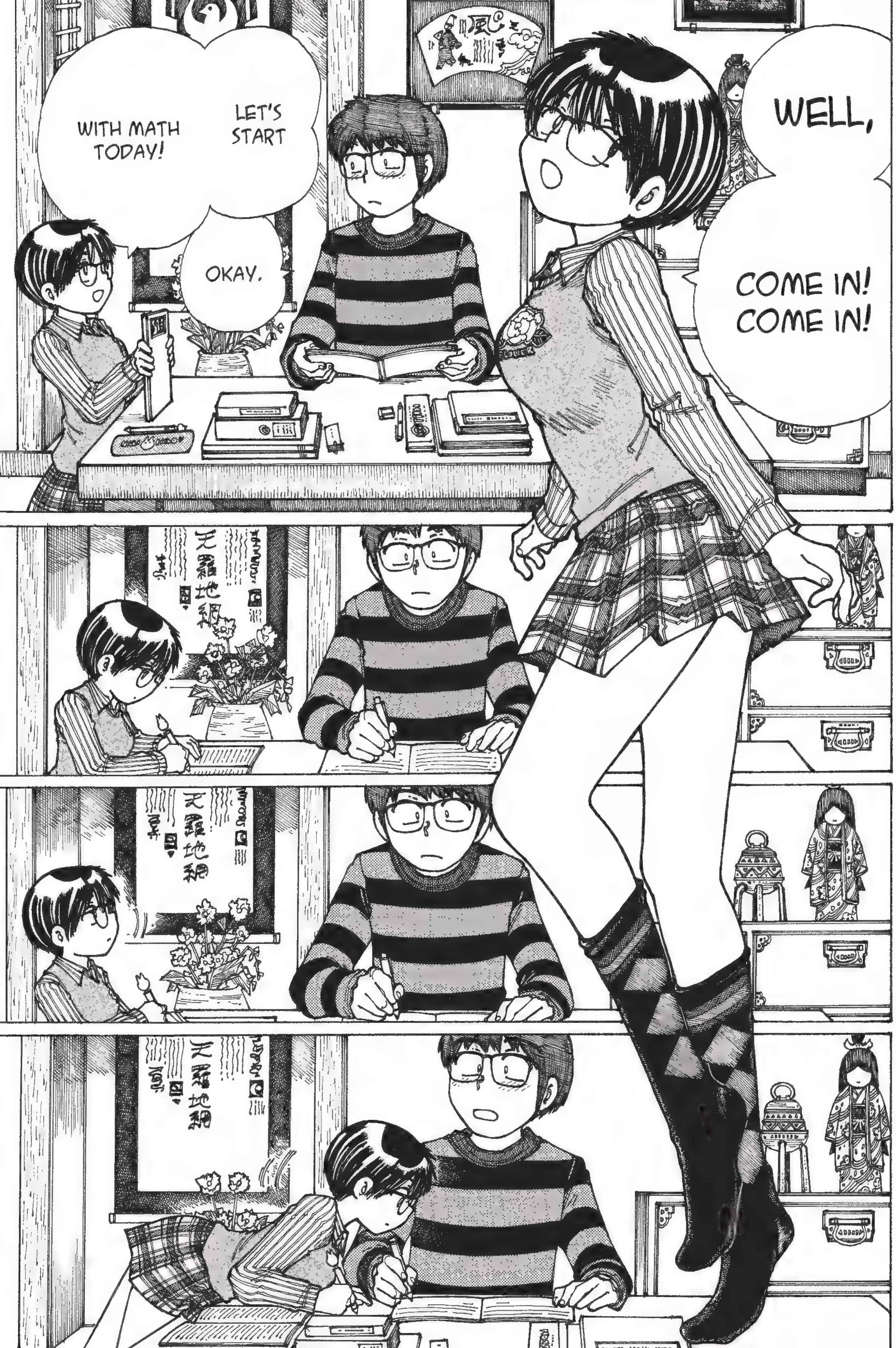
SCISSORS ATTACK
UFO
X
MYSTER KANOJ
VIRGIN
17
SEVEN TEEN

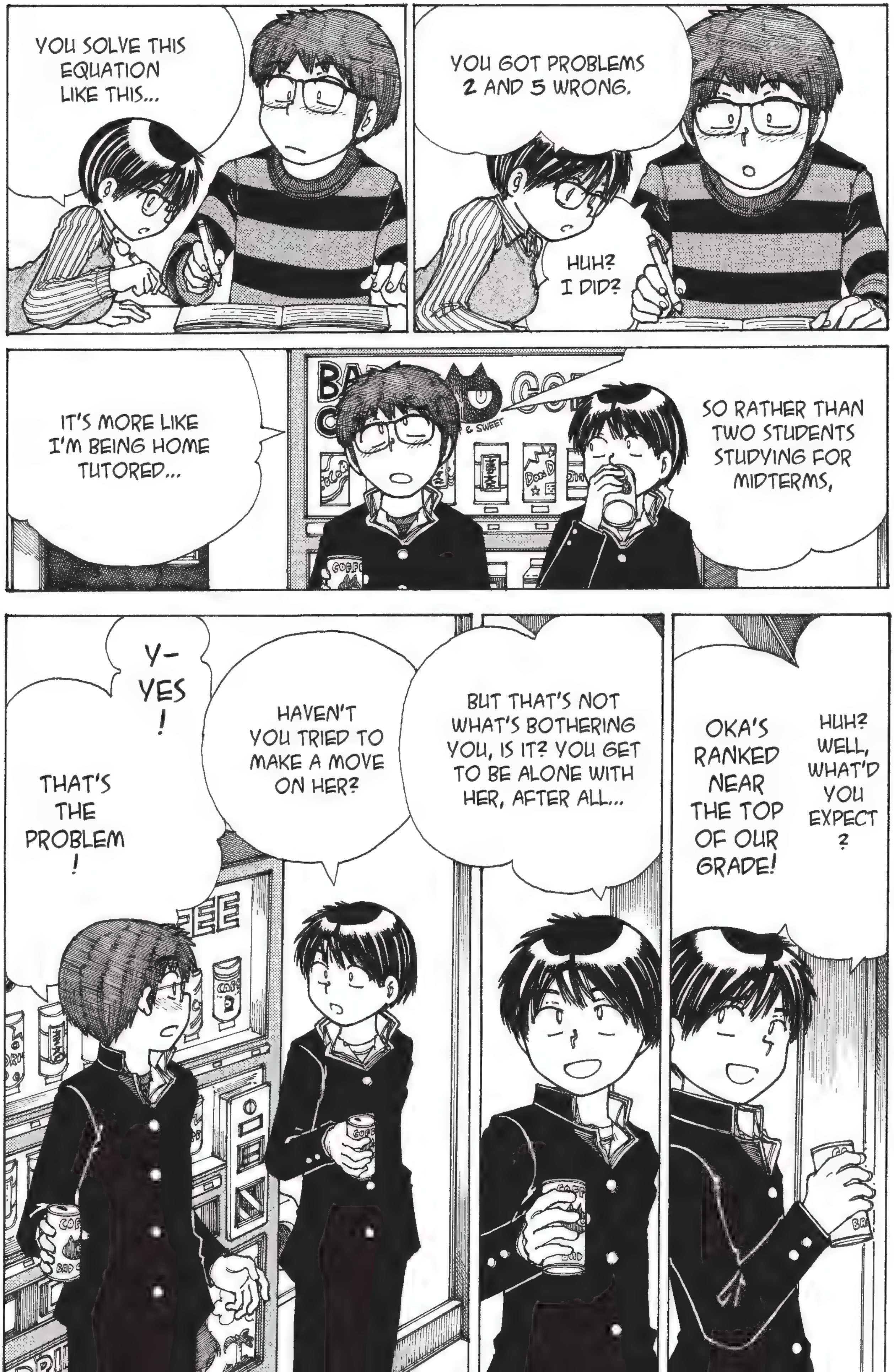
CHAPTER 18: MYSTERIOUS STUDYING FOR EXAMS

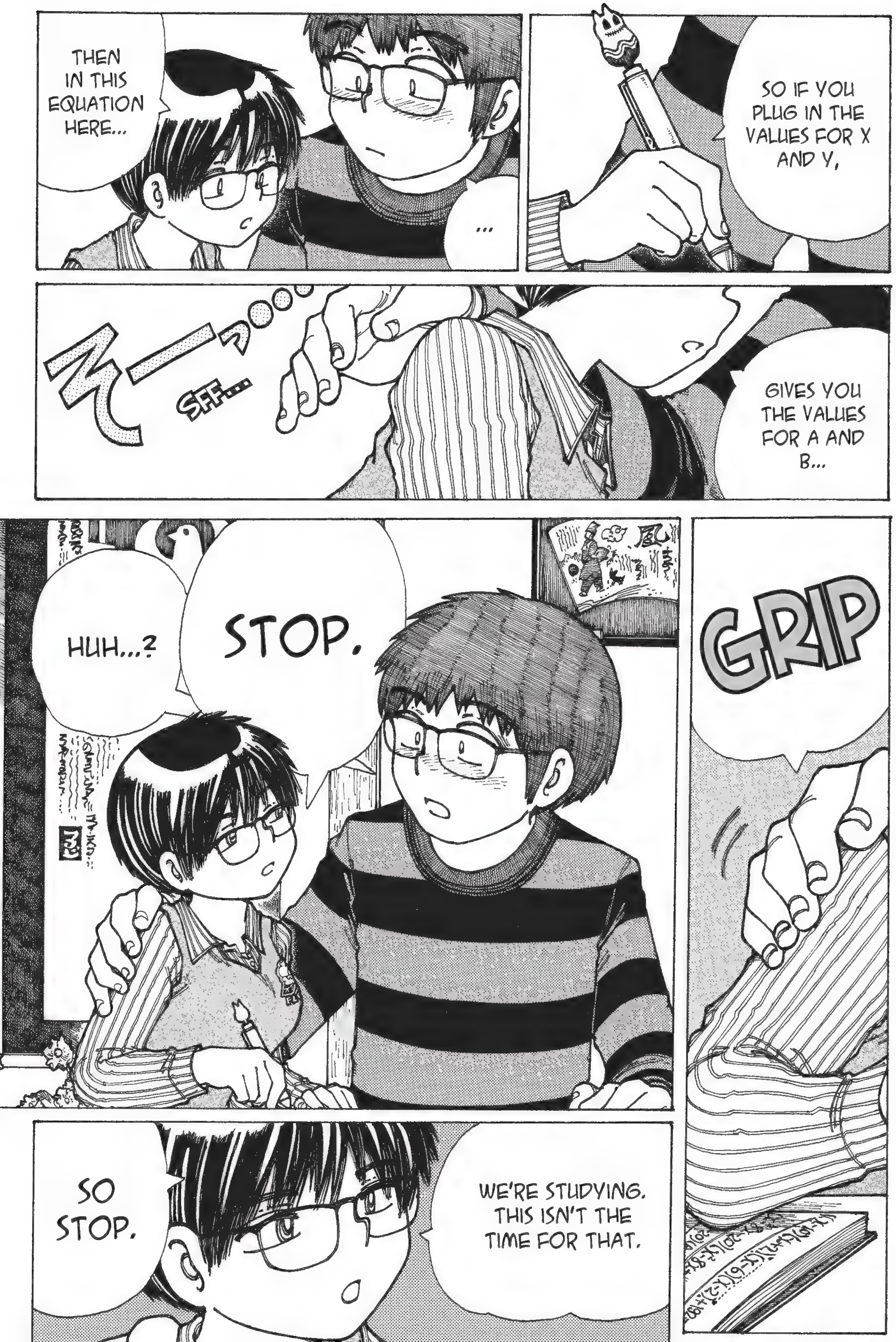

はあーーっ・・・
SIIIIGH...
HM?
WHAT'S WRONG, UENO?
THAT WAS A HEAVY SIGH.
HUH?
OH...
ACTUALLY...
BAD CAT
DRINK
IS IT OKA AGAIN?
HUH? HOW'D YOU KNOW?
HOW DID I KNOW? EVERY TIME YOU'RE HAPPY OR DEPRESSED,
OKA IS ALWAYS THE REASON!
WELL, YEAH, THAT'S TRUE...

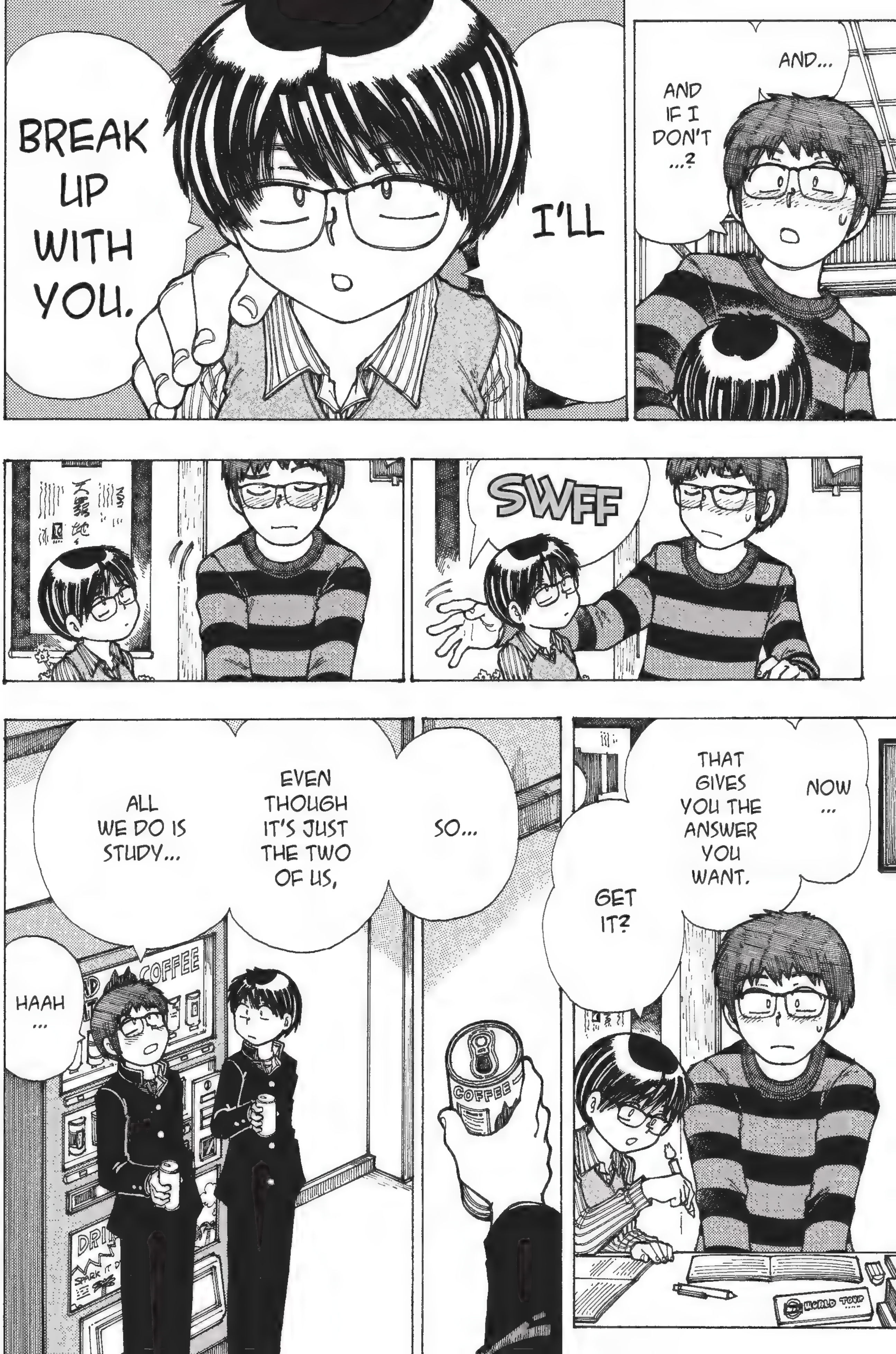

WHEN WE WERE WALKING HOME THE OTHER DAY...
HEY, KOUHEI.
WHAT?
WE'VE GOT MIDTERMS NEXT MONTH, RIGHT?
YEAH.
BASE BALL
COFFE
WHY DON'T WE STUDY TOGETHER
FOR THE MIDTERMS?
STUDY TOGETHER? WHERE WOULD WE STUDY?
AT MY HOUSE.
THAT'S WHAT OKA SAID.
APPARENTLY, HER PARENTS ARE ALWAYS OUT ON SATURDAYS...
BAD
COFF

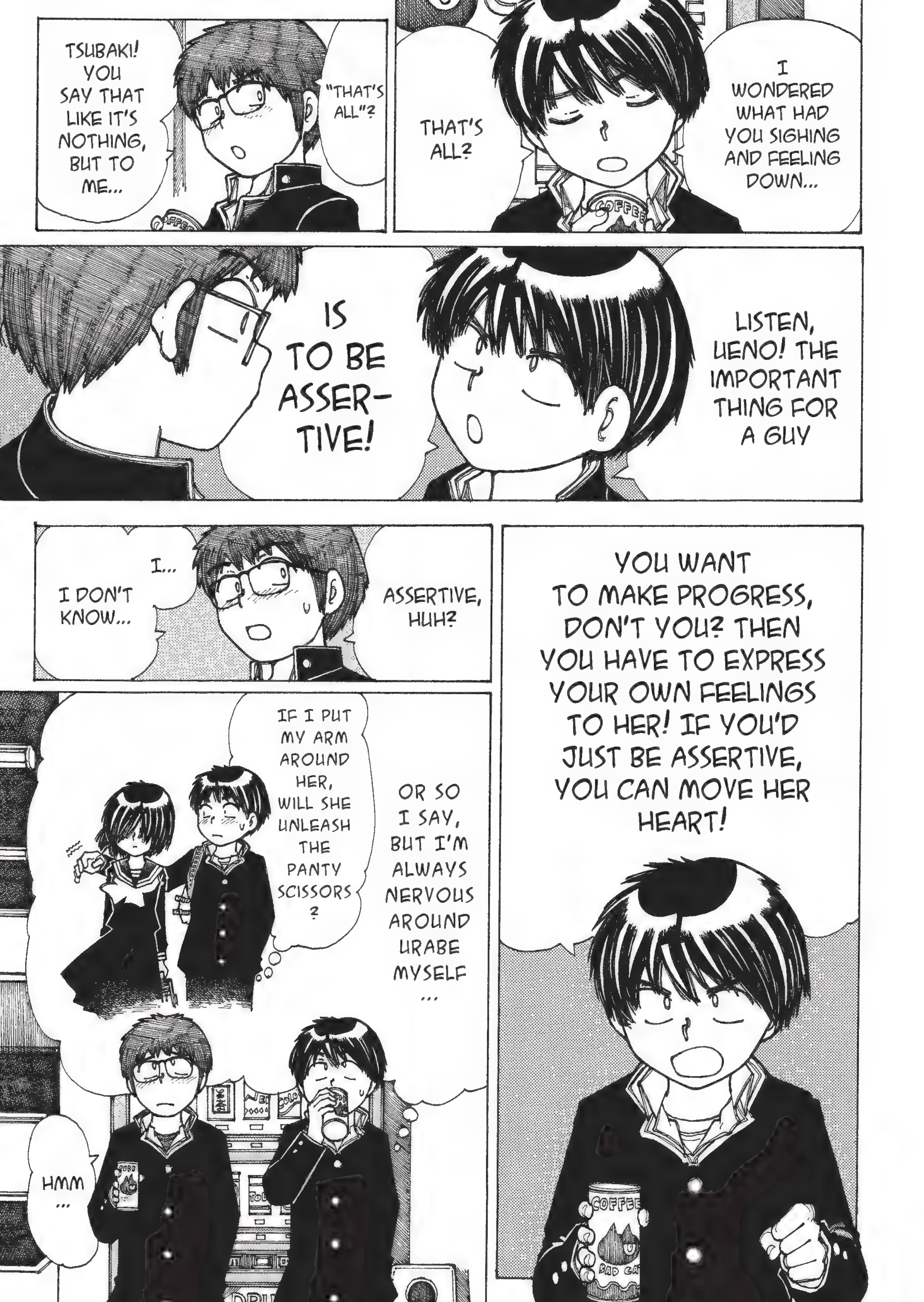

SO, EVERY SATURDAY,
WE'VE BEEN STUDYING TOGETHER AT HER HOUSE...
WOW...
STUDYING WHILE HER PARENTS ARE OUT...
SO IT'S JUST THE TWO OF YOU?!
WELL, YEAH...
COFFEE
WELCOME
DING DONG♪
BUT...
HI, KOUHEI!
COFFEE

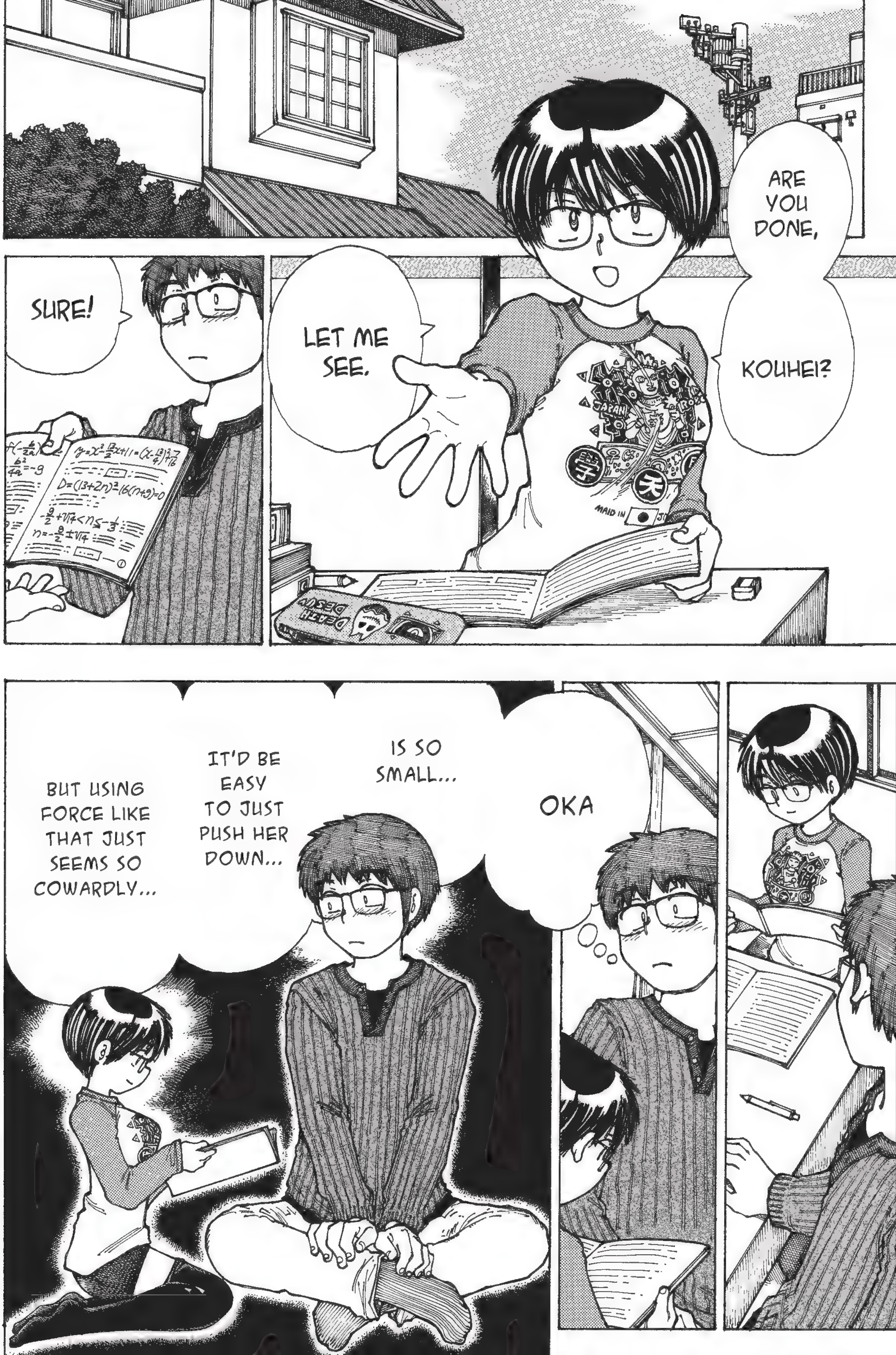

WELL,
COME IN! COME IN!
LET'S START WITH MATH TODAY!
OKAY.
天羅地網
天羅地網
天羅地網

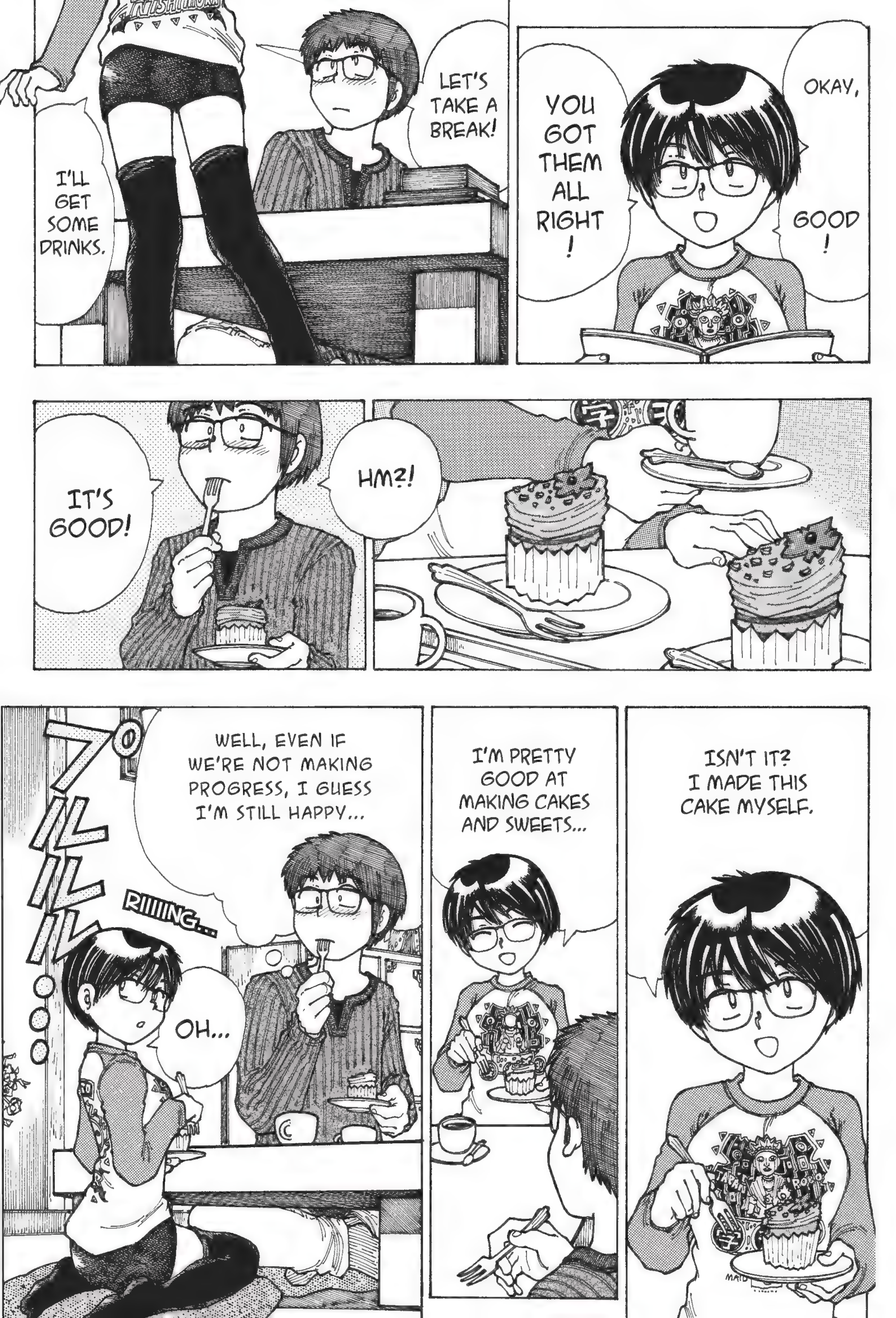

YOU GOT PROBLEMS 2 AND 5 WRONG.
HUH? I DID?
YOU SOLVE THIS EQUATION LIKE THIS...
SO RATHER THAN TWO STUDENTS STUDYING FOR MIDTERMS,
IT'S MORE LIKE I'M BEING HOME TUTORED...
HUH? WELL, WHAT'D YOU EXPECT?
OKA'S RANKED NEAR THE TOP OF OUR GRADE!
BUT THAT'S NOT WHAT'S BOTHERING YOU, IS IT? YOU GET TO BE ALONE WITH HER, AFTER ALL...
HAVEN'T YOU TRIED TO MAKE A MOVE ON HER?
Y-YES!
THAT'S THE PROBLEM!

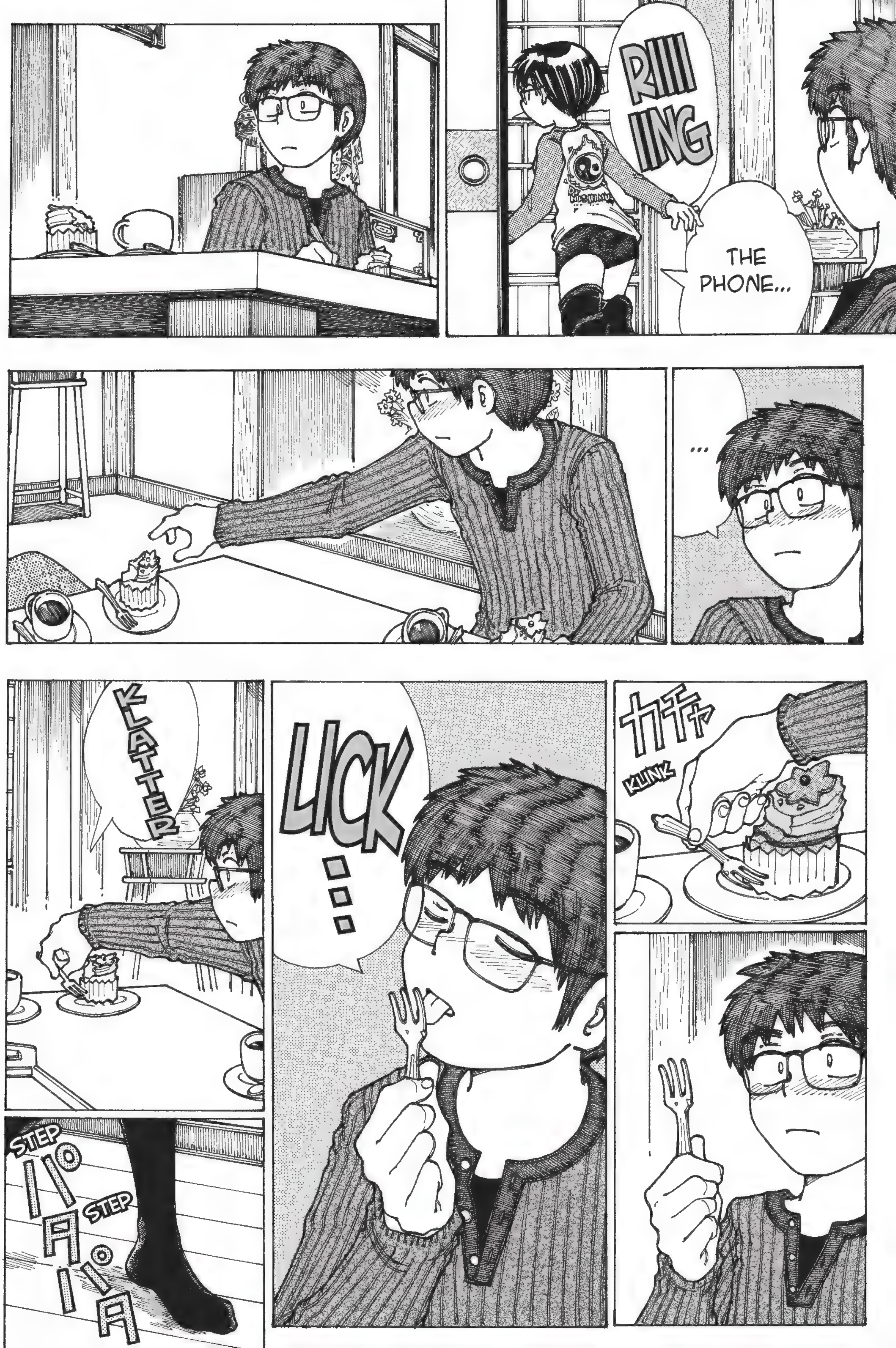

THEN IN THIS EQUATION HERE...
...
SO IF YOU PLUG IN THE VALUES FOR X AND Y,
SFF...
GIVES YOU THE VALUES FOR A AND B...
GRIP
STOP.
HUH...?
WE'RE STUDYING. THIS ISN'T THE TIME FOR THAT.
SO STOP.

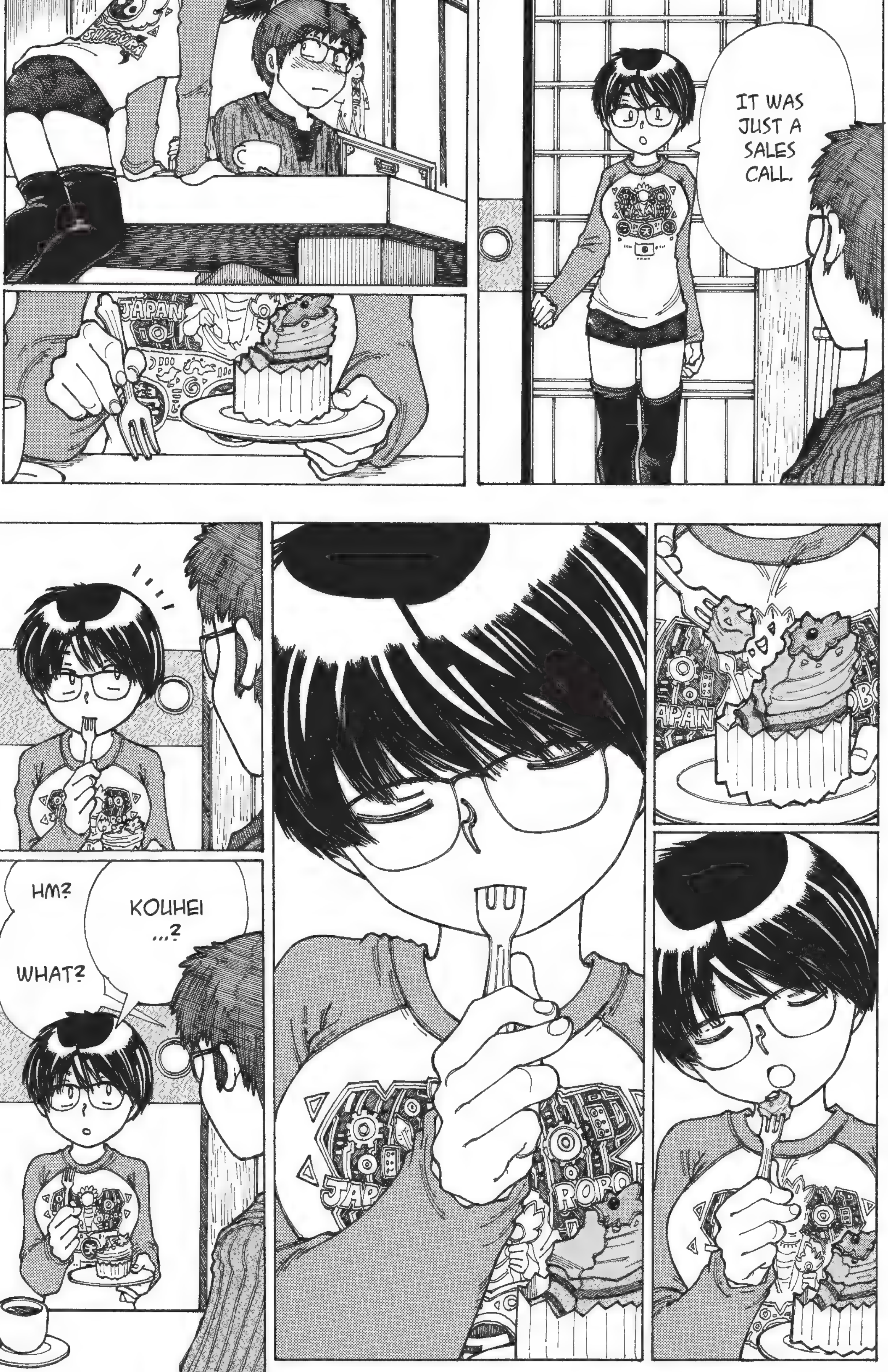

AND...
AND IF I DON'T ...?
I'LL
BREAK UP WITH YOU.
SWFF
NOW ...
THAT GIVES YOU THE ANSWER YOU WANT.
GET IT?
WORLD TOUR
COFFEE
SO...
EVEN THOUGH IT'S JUST THE TWO OF US,
ALL WE DO IS STUDY...
HAAH ...
COFFEE
DRI
SPARK IT D

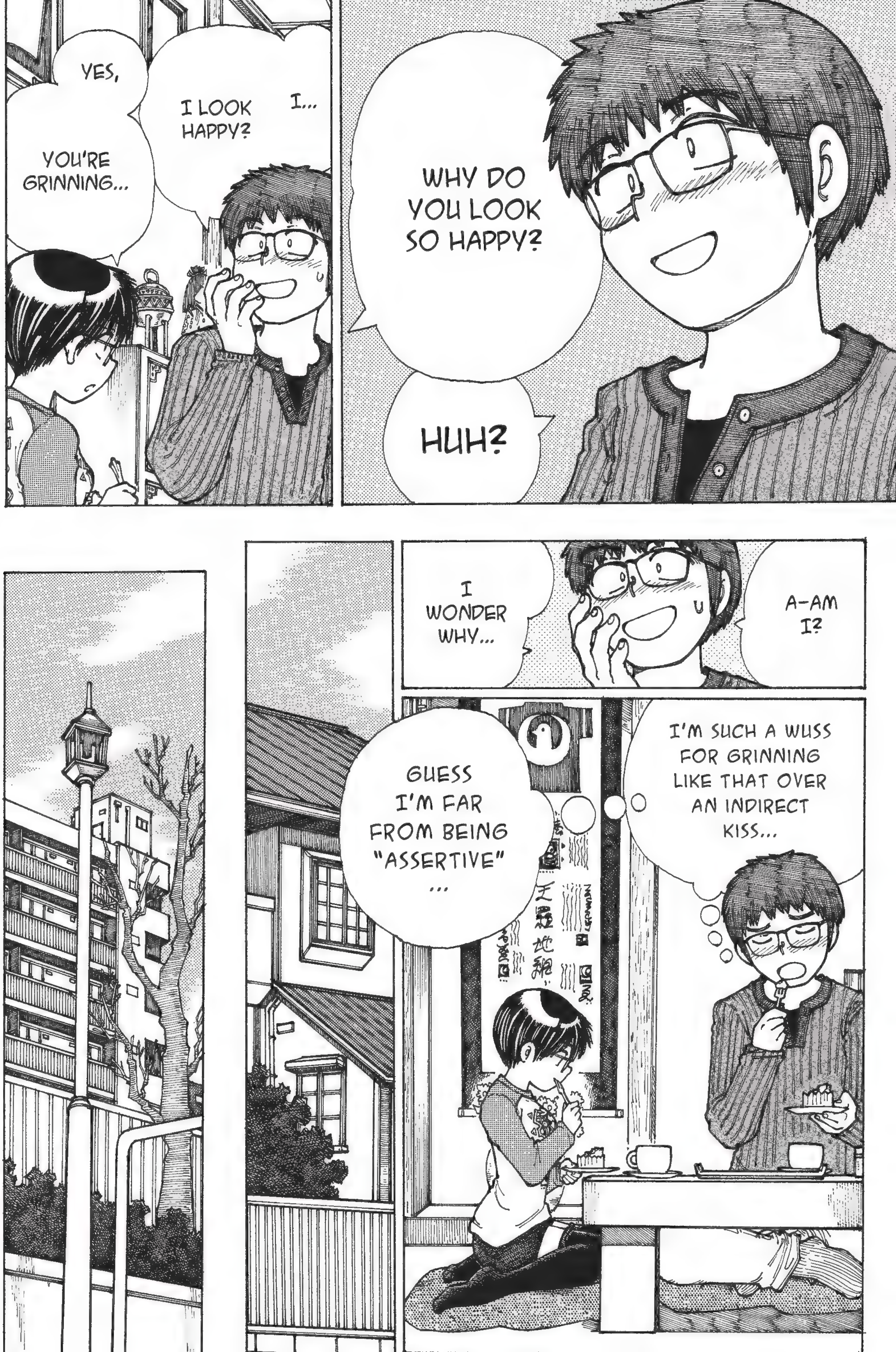

I WONDERED WHAT HAD YOU SIGHING AND FEELING DOWN...
THAT'S ALL?
"THAT'S ALL"?
TSUBAKI! YOU SAY THAT LIKE IT'S NOTHING, BUT TO ME...
LISTEN, UENO! THE IMPORTANT THING FOR A GUY
IS TO BE ASSERTIVE!
YOU WANT TO MAKE PROGRESS, DON'T YOU? THEN YOU HAVE TO EXPRESS YOUR OWN FEELINGS TO HER! IF YOU'D JUST BE ASSERTIVE, YOU CAN MOVE HER HEART!
ASSERTIVE, HUH?
I...
I DON'T KNOW...
OR SO I SAY, BUT I'M ALWAYS NERVOUS AROUND URABE MYSELF...
IF I PUT MY ARM AROUND HER, WILL SHE UNLEASH THE PANTY SCISSORS?
HMM...
COFFEE

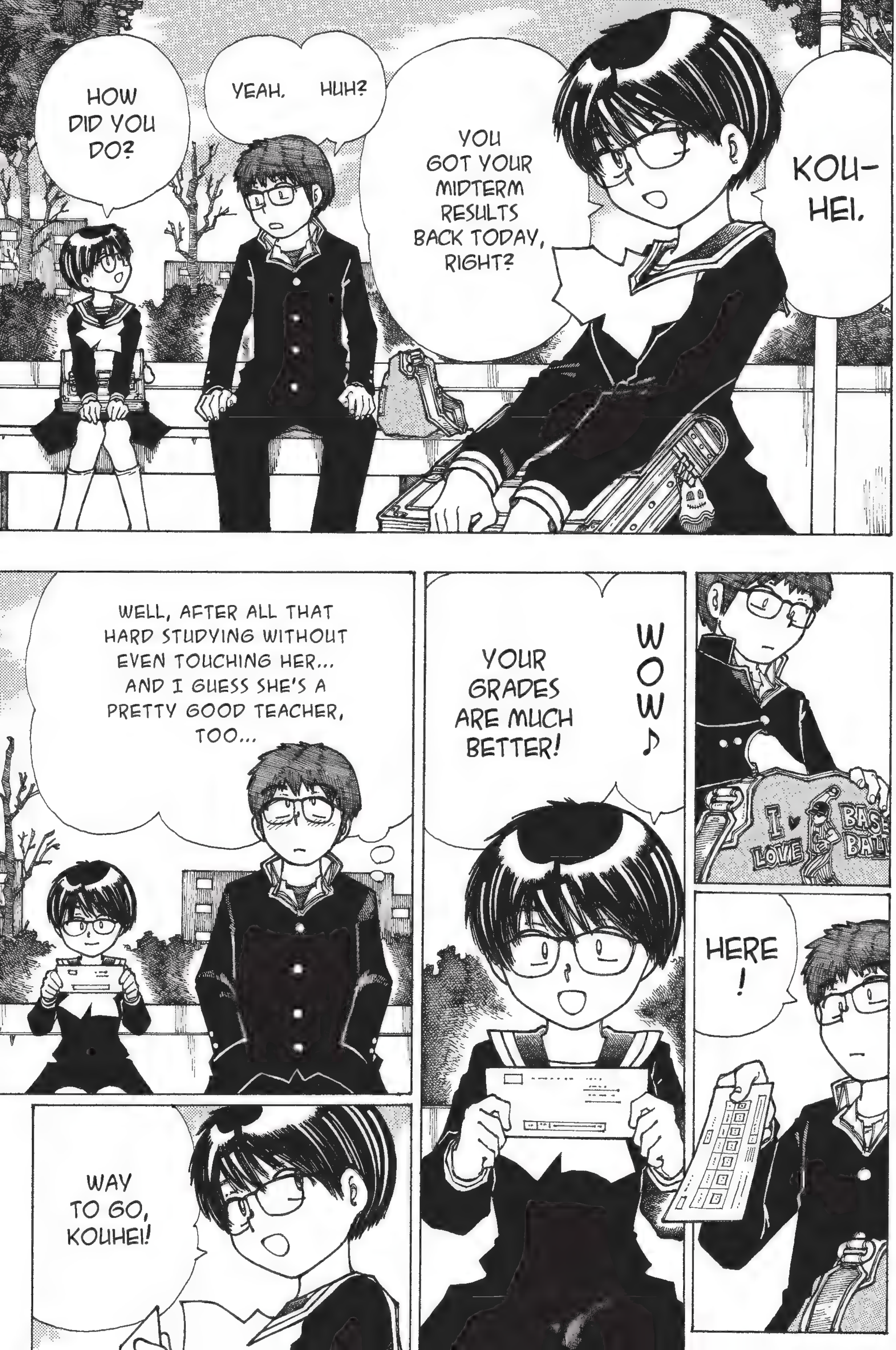

ARE YOU DONE,
KOUHEI?
LET ME SEE.
SURE!
DEATH DESU
OKA
IS SO SMALL...
IT'D BE EASY TO JUST PUSH HER DOWN...
BUT USING FORCE LIKE THAT JUST SEEMS SO COWARDLY...

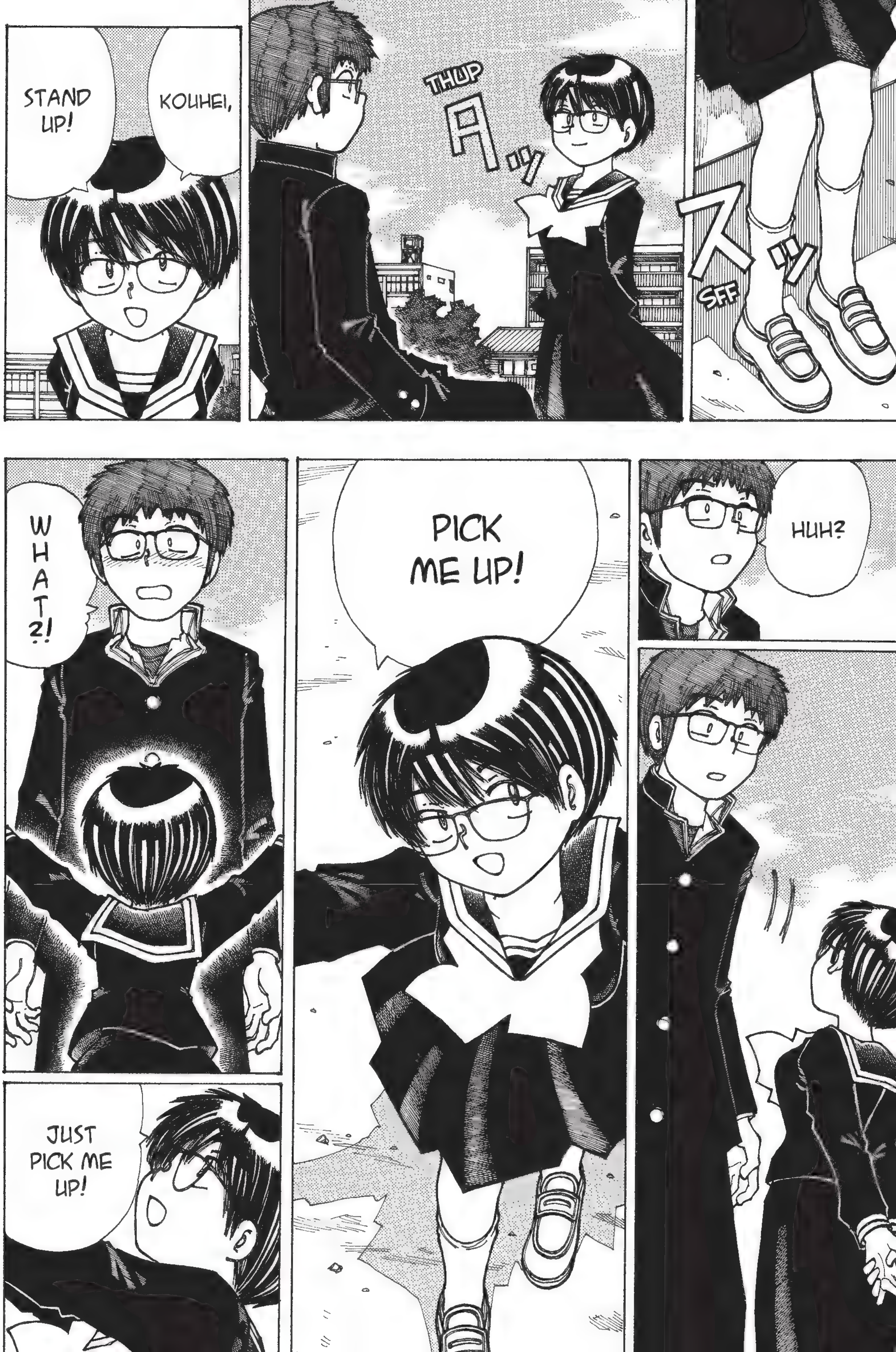

OKAY, GOOD!
YOU GOT THEM ALL RIGHT!
LET'S TAKE A BREAK!
I'LL GET SOME DRINKS.
HM?!
IT'S GOOD!
ISN'T IT? I MADE THIS CAKE MYSELF.
I'M PRETTY GOOD AT MAKING CAKES AND SWEETS...
WELL, EVEN IF WE'RE NOT MAKING PROGRESS, I GUESS I'M STILL HAPPY...
プルルル…
RIIIING...
OH...

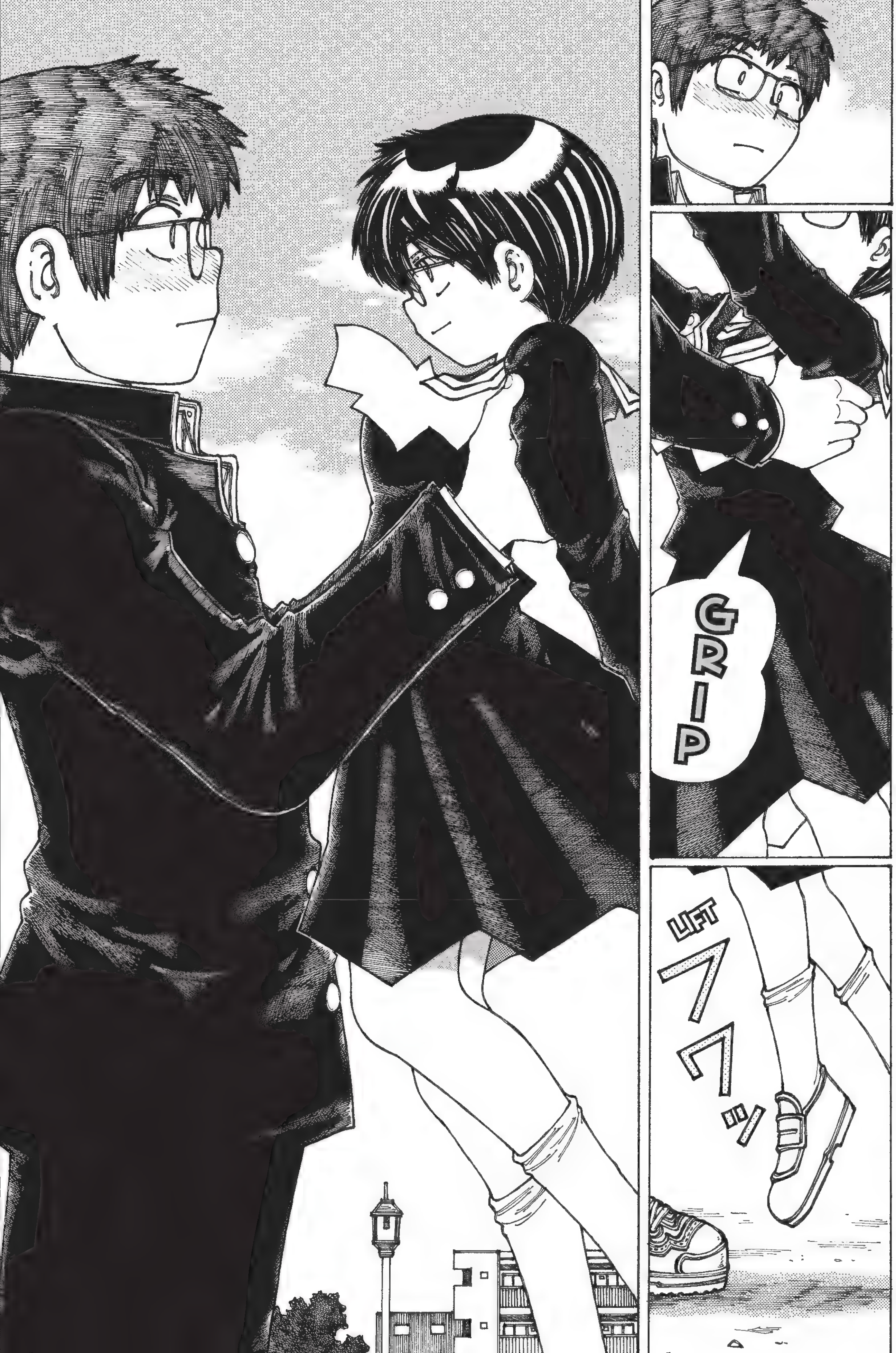

RIIIING
THE PHONE...
...
カチャ
KLINK
LICK
...
KLATTER
STEP
パタ
STEP
パタ

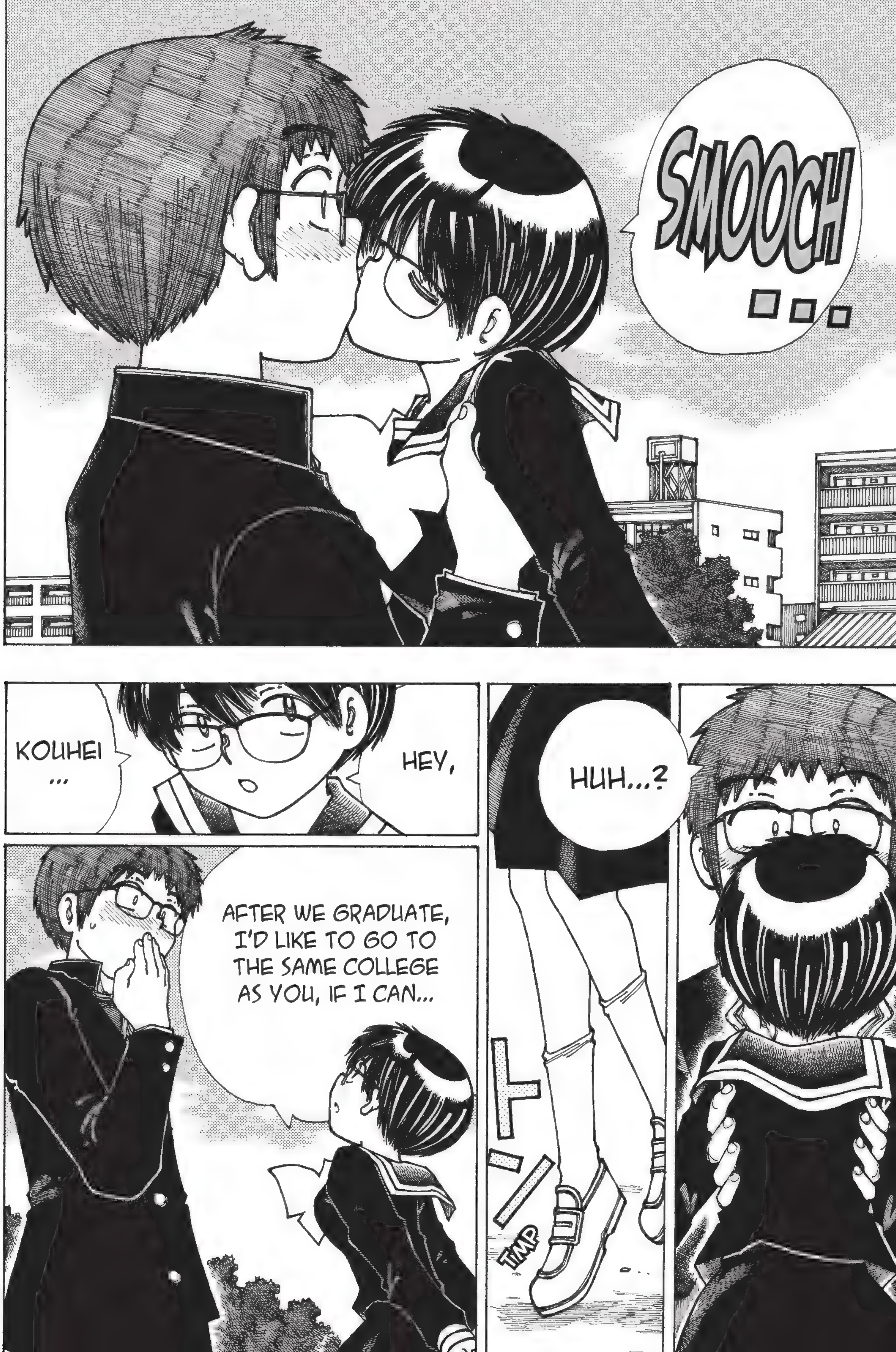

IT WAS JUST A SALES CALL.
KOUHEI ...?
HM?
WHAT?

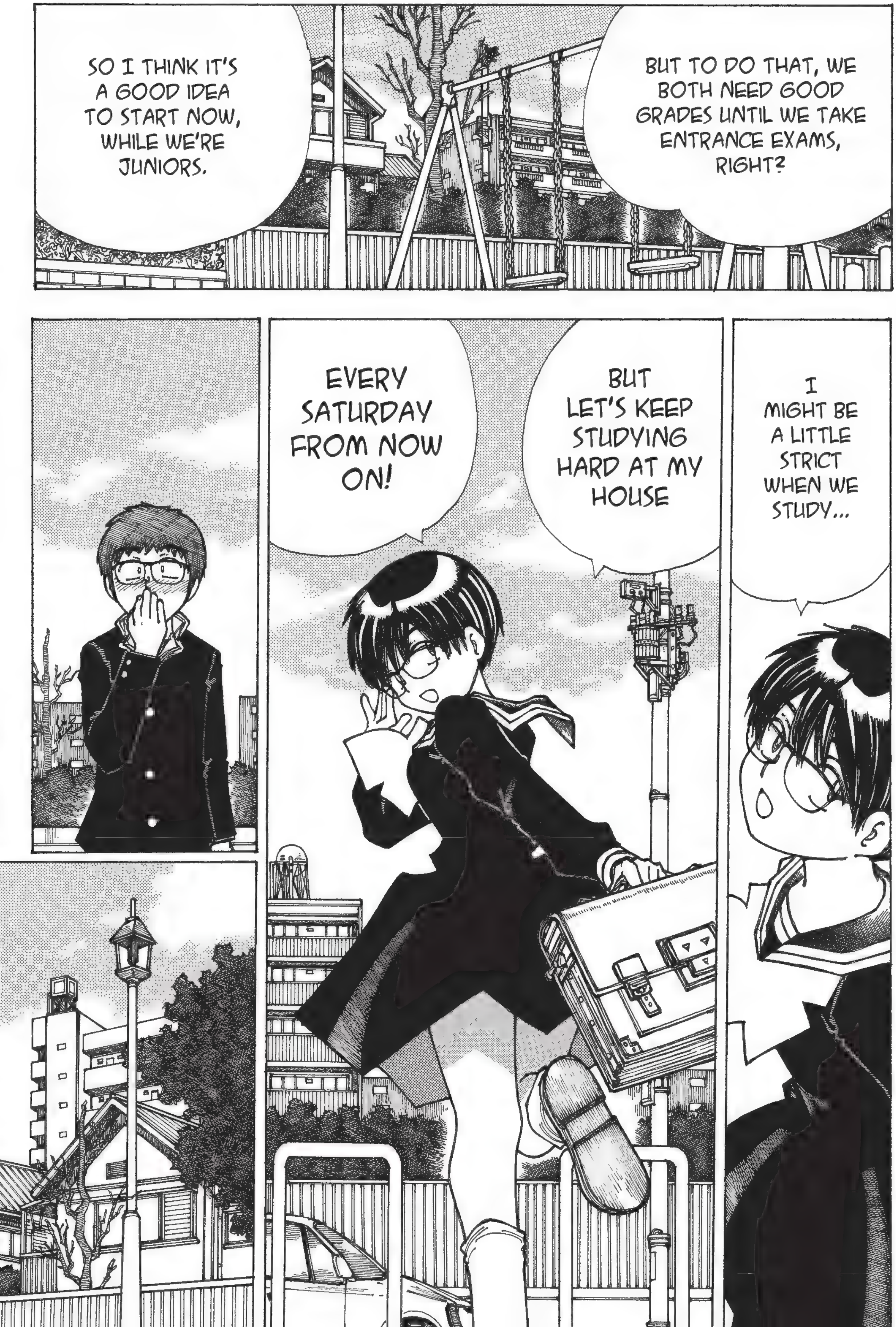

WHY DO YOU LOOK SO HAPPY?
HUH?
I...
I LOOK HAPPY?
YES,
YOU'RE GRINNING...
A-AM I?
I WONDER WHY...
I'M SUCH A WUSS FOR GRINNING LIKE THAT OVER AN INDIRECT KISS...
GUESS I'M FAR FROM BEING "ASSERTIVE" ...

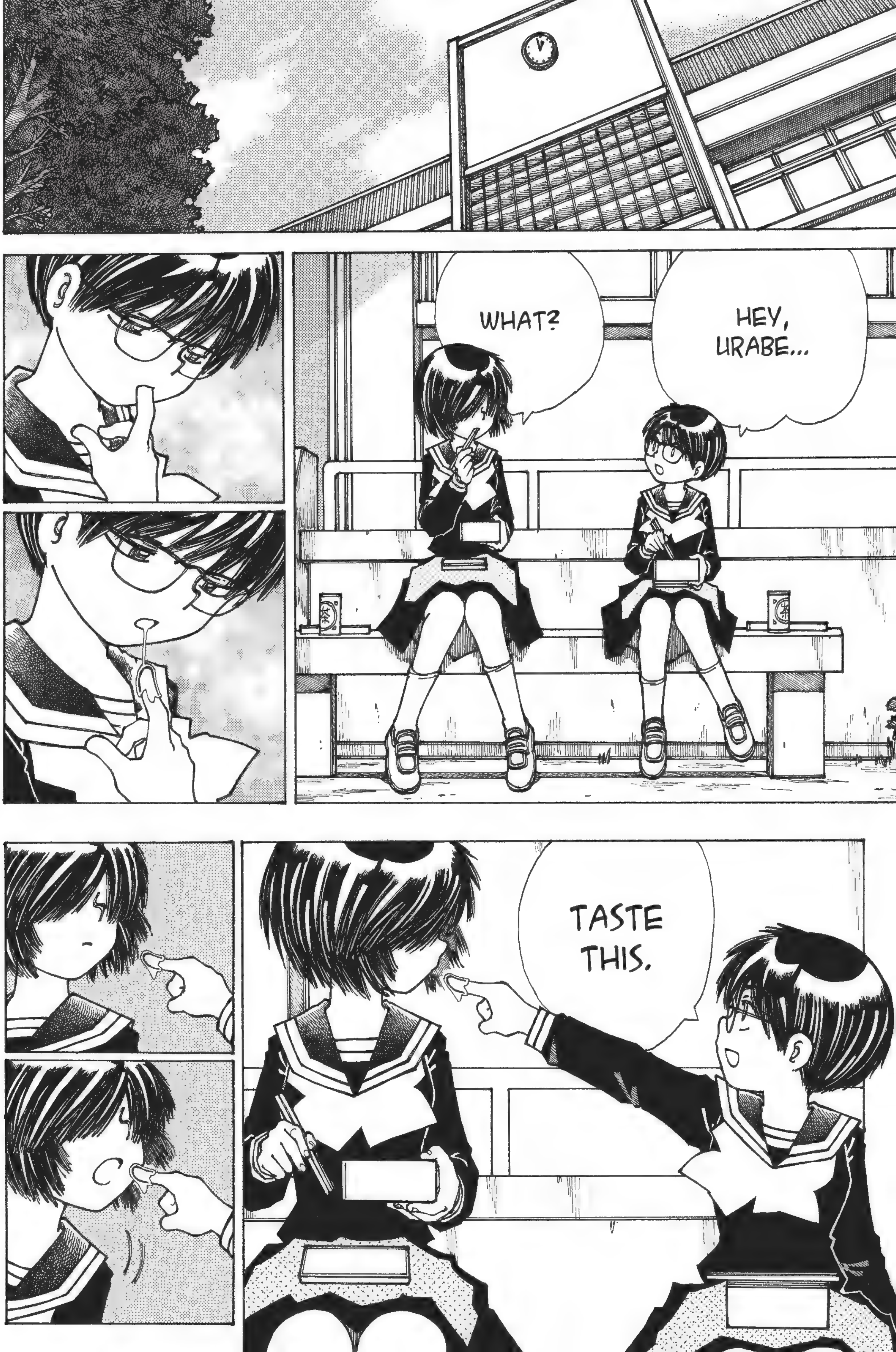

KOU-HEI.
YOU GOT YOUR MIDTERM RESULTS BACK TODAY, RIGHT?
YEAH.
HUH?
HOW DID YOU DO?
I ♥ LOVE BASEBALL
HERE!
WOW♪
YOUR GRADES ARE MUCH BETTER!
WELL, AFTER ALL THAT HARD STUDYING WITHOUT EVEN TOUCHING HER... AND I GUESS SHE'S A PRETTY GOOD TEACHER, TOO...
WAY TO GO, KOUHEI!

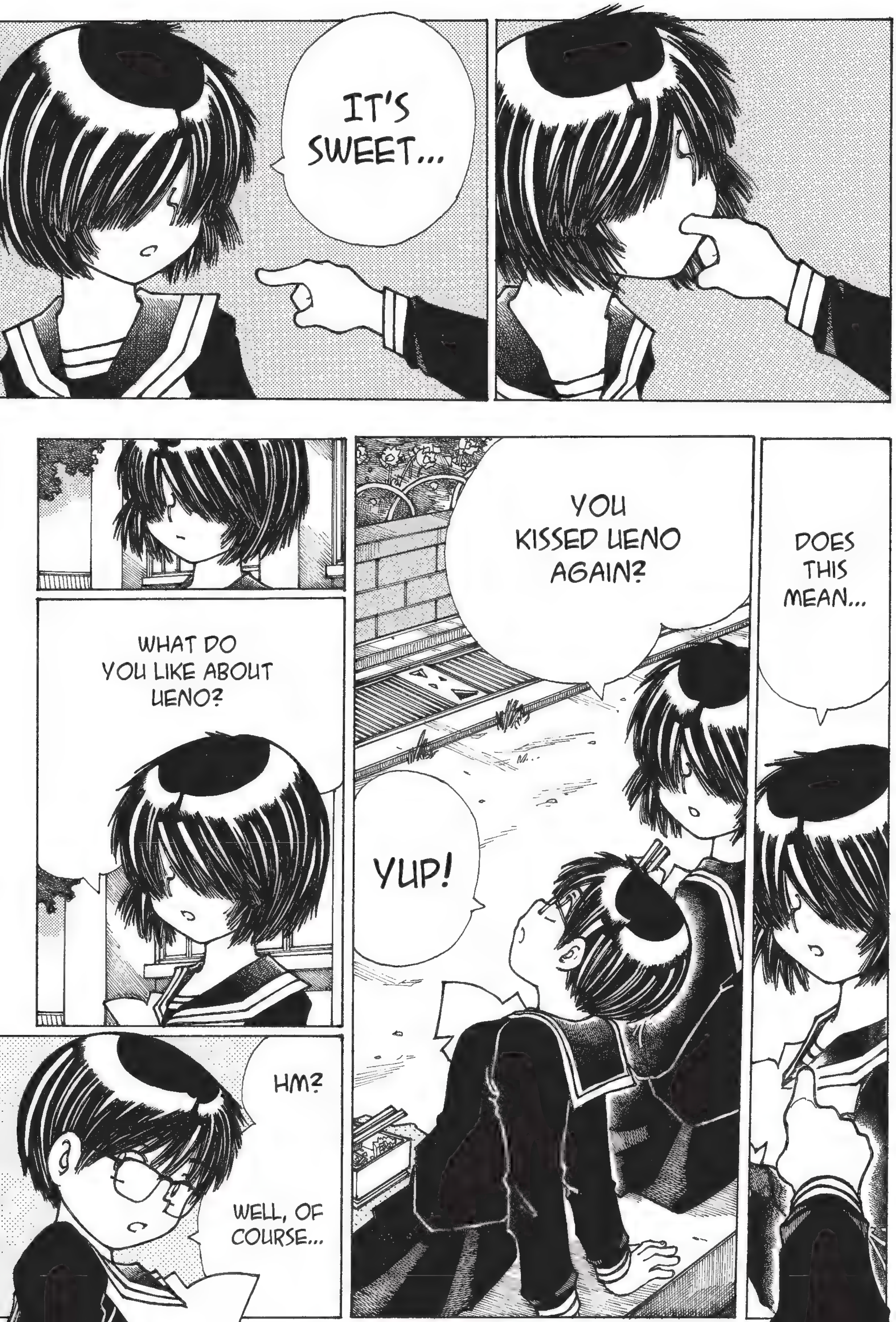

SFF
THUP
KOUHEI,
STAND UP!
HUH?
PICK ME UP!
WHAT?!
JUST PICK ME UP!

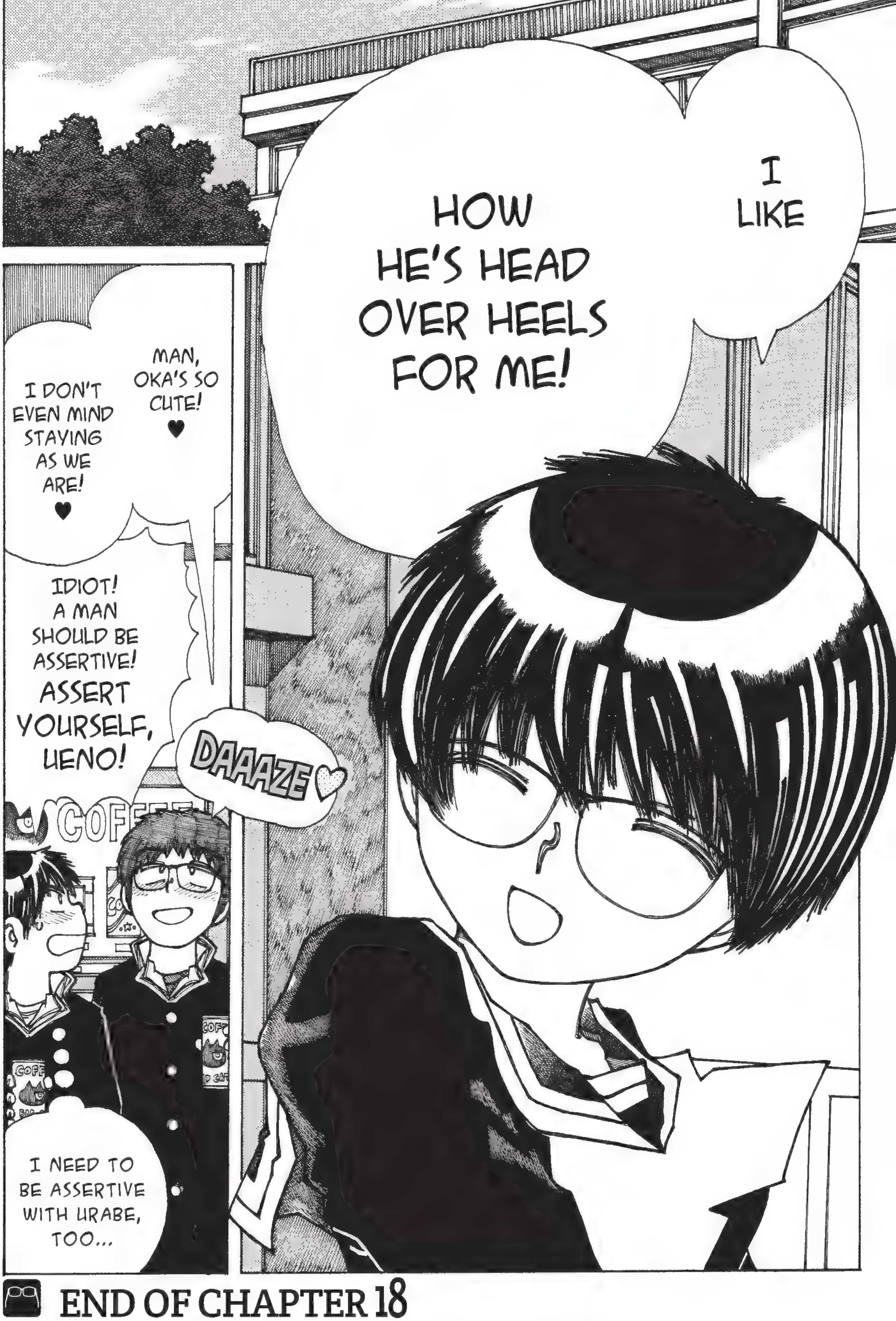

GRIP
LIFT
フワッ


SMOOCH
...
HUH...?
TMP
HEY,
KOUHEI ...
AFTER WE GRADUATE, I'D LIKE TO GO TO THE SAME COLLEGE AS YOU, IF I CAN...


BUT TO DO THAT, WE BOTH NEED GOOD GRADES UNTIL WE TAKE ENTRANCE EXAMS, RIGHT?
SO I THINK IT'S A GOOD IDEA TO START NOW, WHILE WE'RE JUNIORS.
I MIGHT BE A LITTLE STRICT WHEN WE STUDY...
BUT LET'S KEEP STUDYING HARD AT MY HOUSE
EVERY SATURDAY FROM NOW ON!


HEY, URABE...
WHAT?
TASTE THIS.

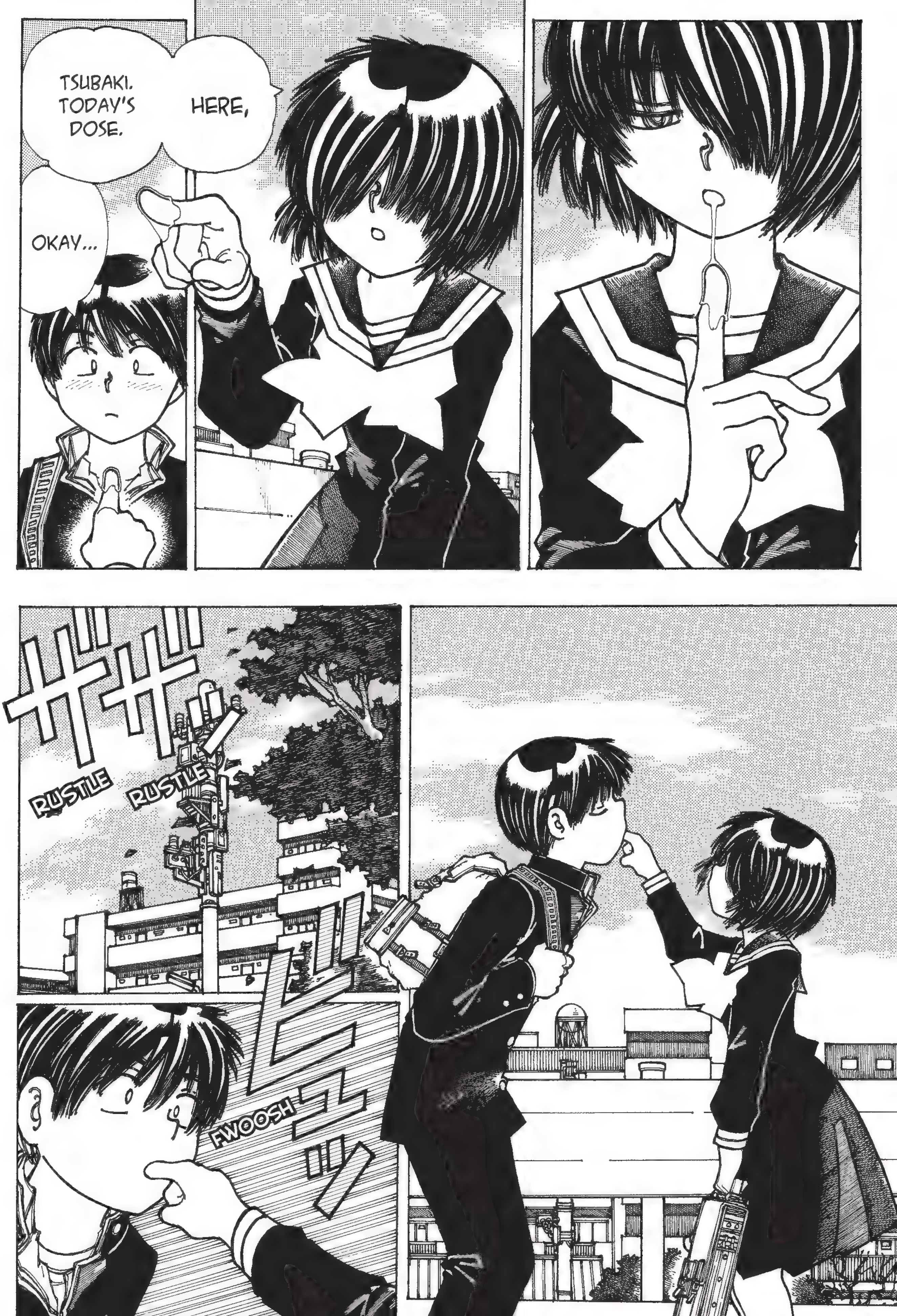

IT'S SWEET...
DOES THIS MEAN...
YOU KISSED UENO AGAIN?
YUP!
WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT UENO?
HM?
WELL, OF COURSE...

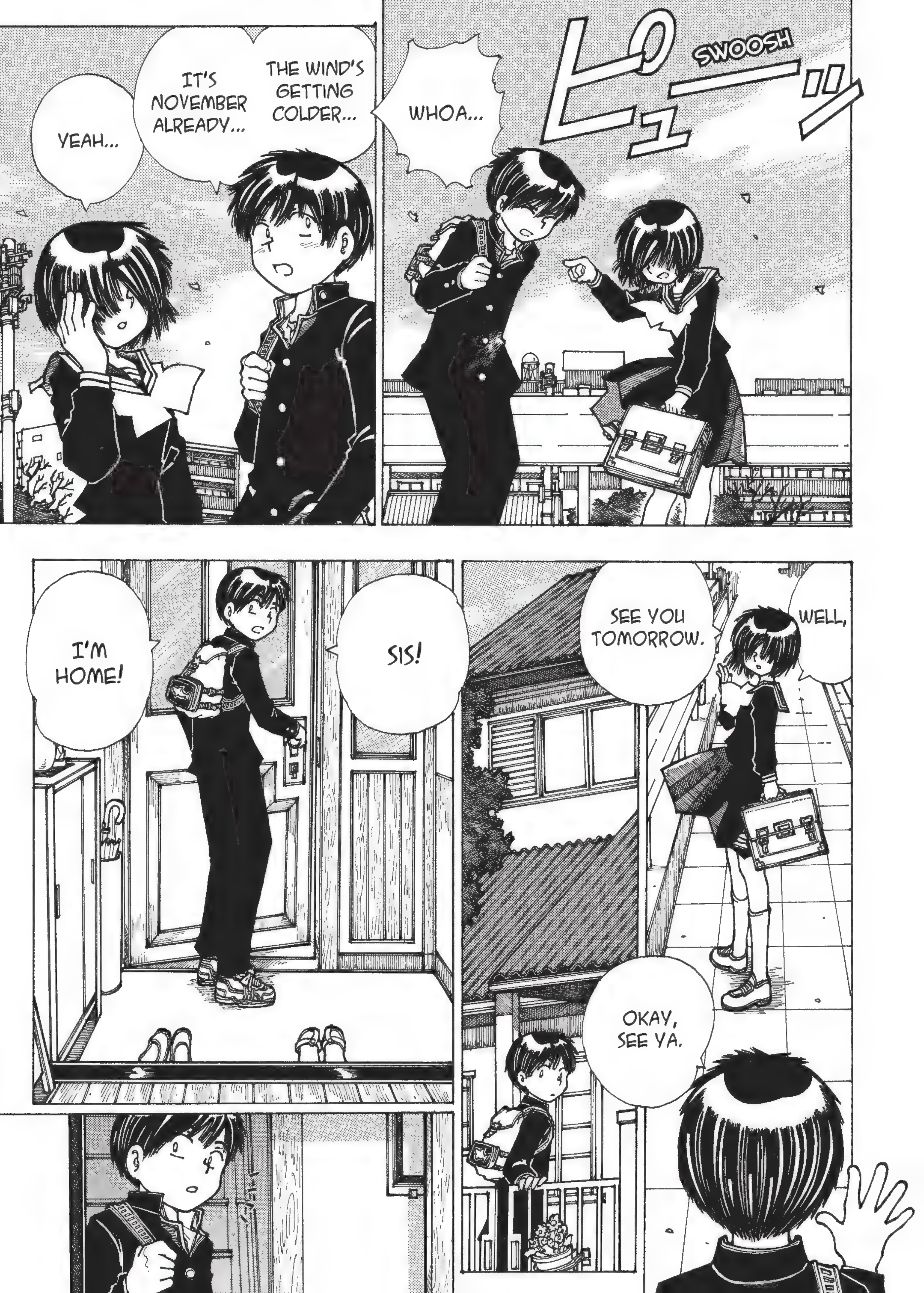

I LIKE HOW HE'S HEAD OVER HEELS FOR ME!
DAAAZE ♡
MAN, OKA'S SO CUTE! ♥
I DON'T EVEN MIND STAYING AS WE ARE! ♥
IDIOT! A MAN SHOULD BE ASSERTIVE! ASSERT YOURSELF, UENO!
COFFEE
I NEED TO BE ASSERTIVE WITH URABE, TOO...

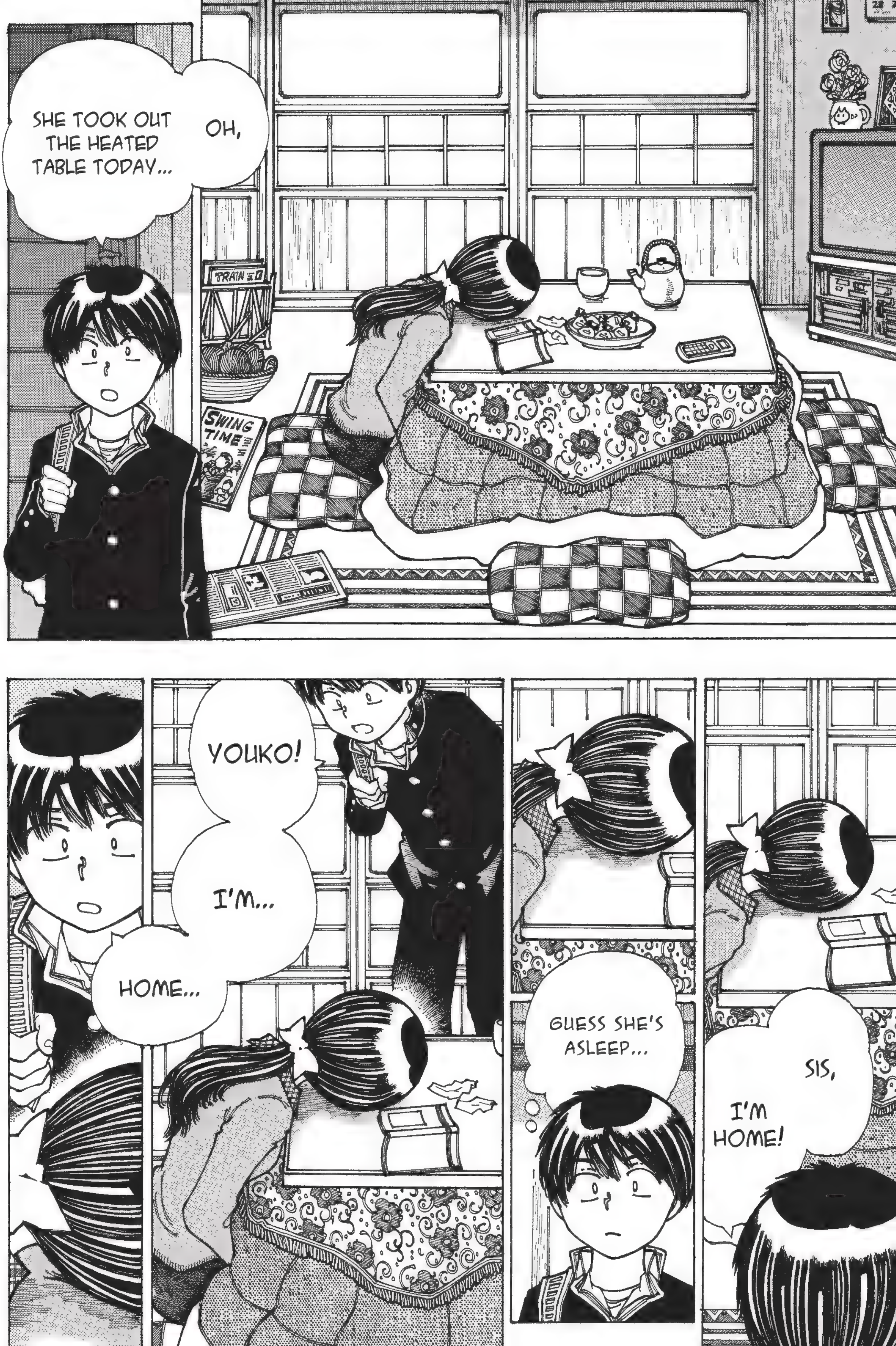
END OF CHAPTER 18

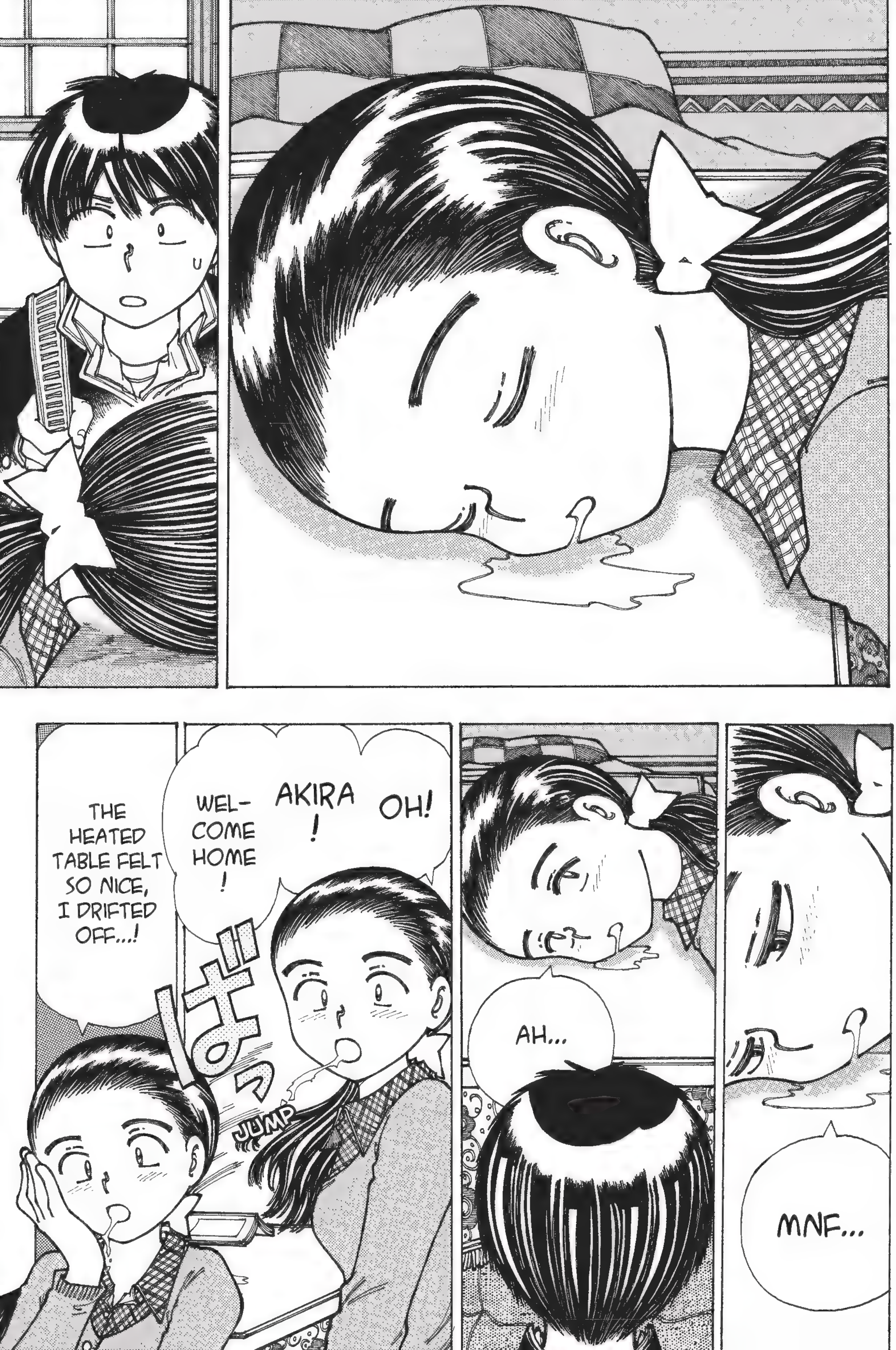
LOVE
SCISSORS ATTACK
文

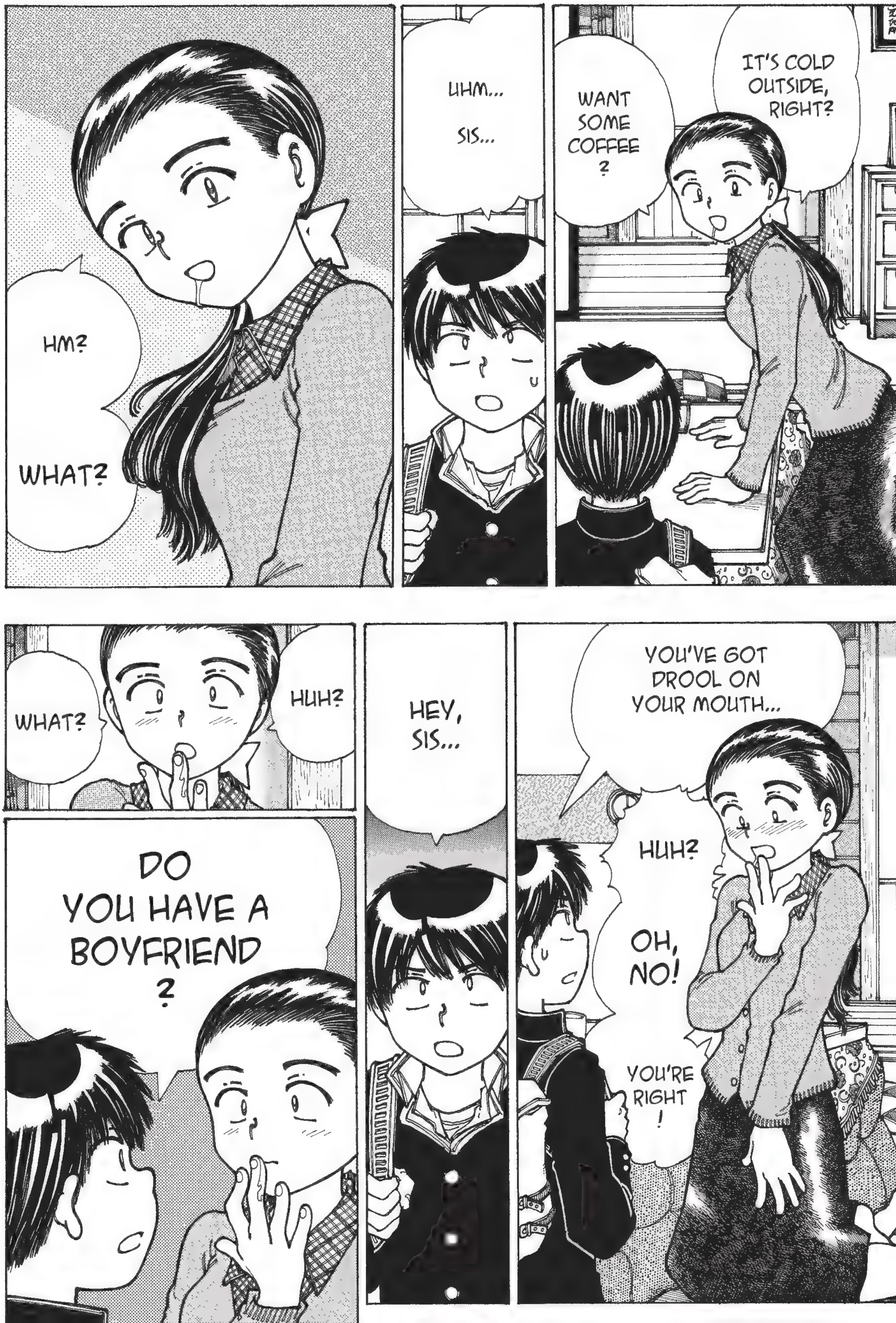
CHAPTER 19: MYSTERIOUS OLDER SISTER

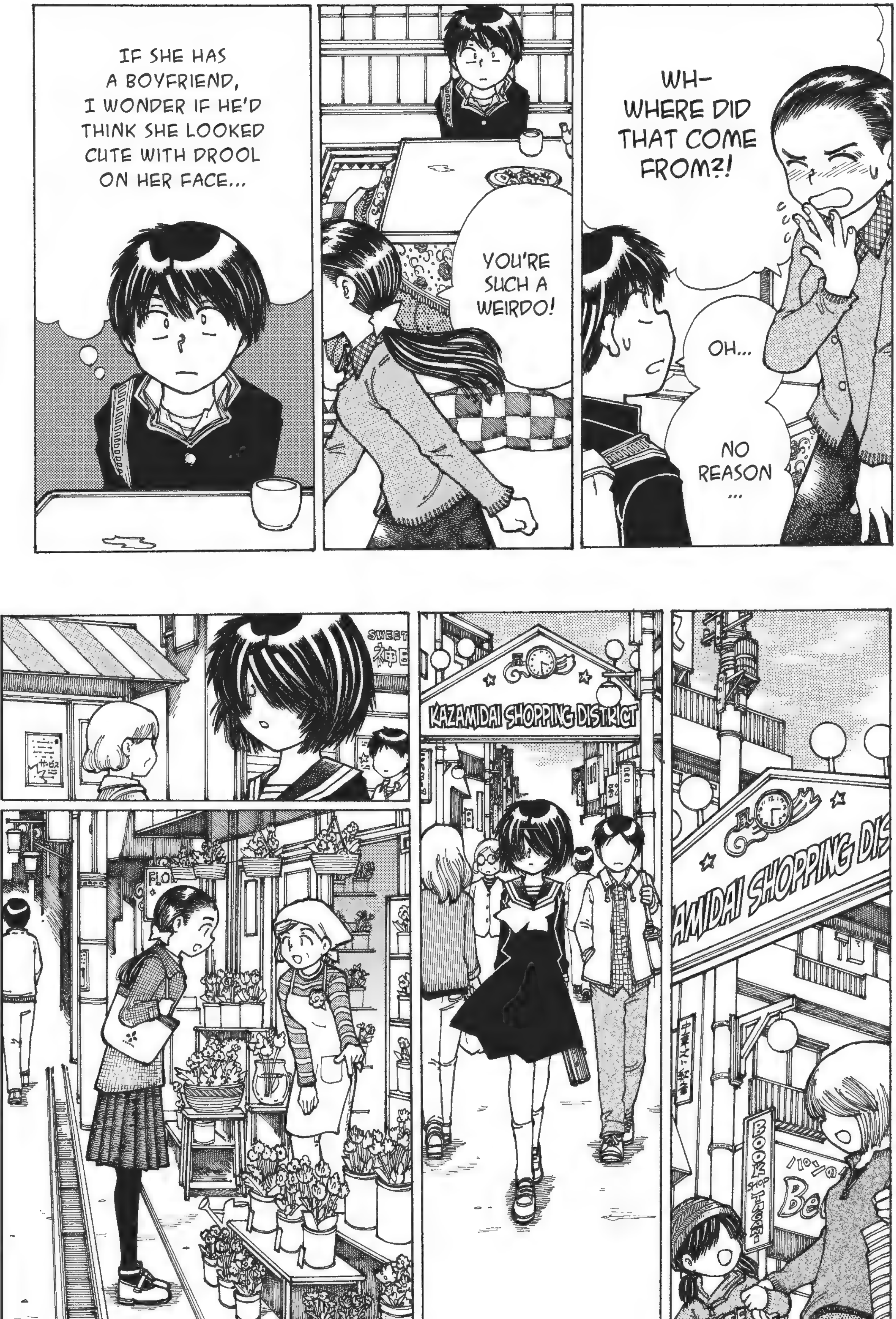

HERE,
TSUBAKI. TODAY'S DOSE.
OKAY...
ザザッ
RUSTLE
RUSTLE
ビューッ
FWOOSH

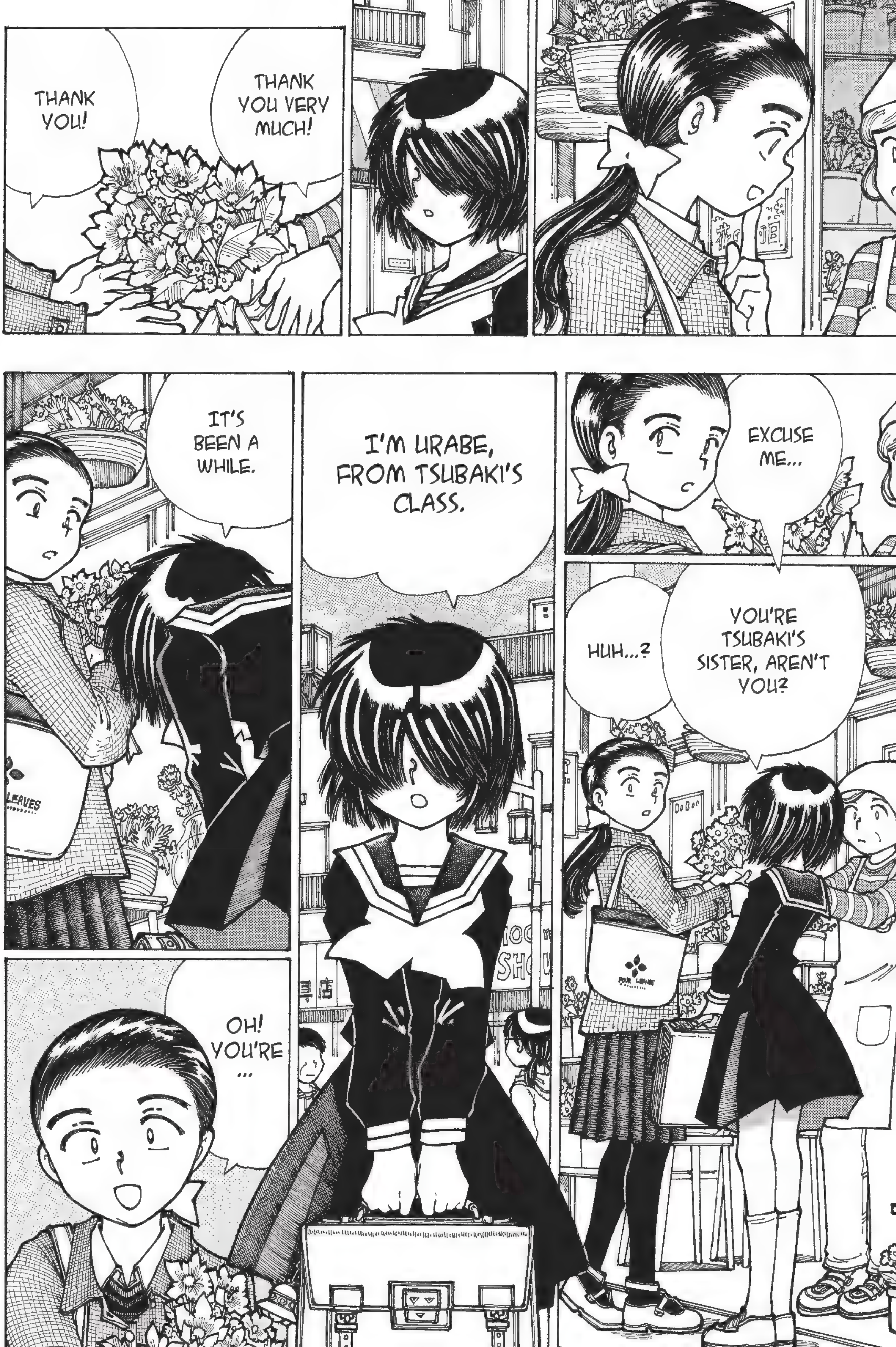

ピューッ
SWOOSH
WHOA...
THE WIND'S GETTING COLDER...
IT'S NOVEMBER ALREADY...
YEAH...
WELL,
SEE YOU TOMORROW.
OKAY, SEE YA.
I'M HOME!
SIS!

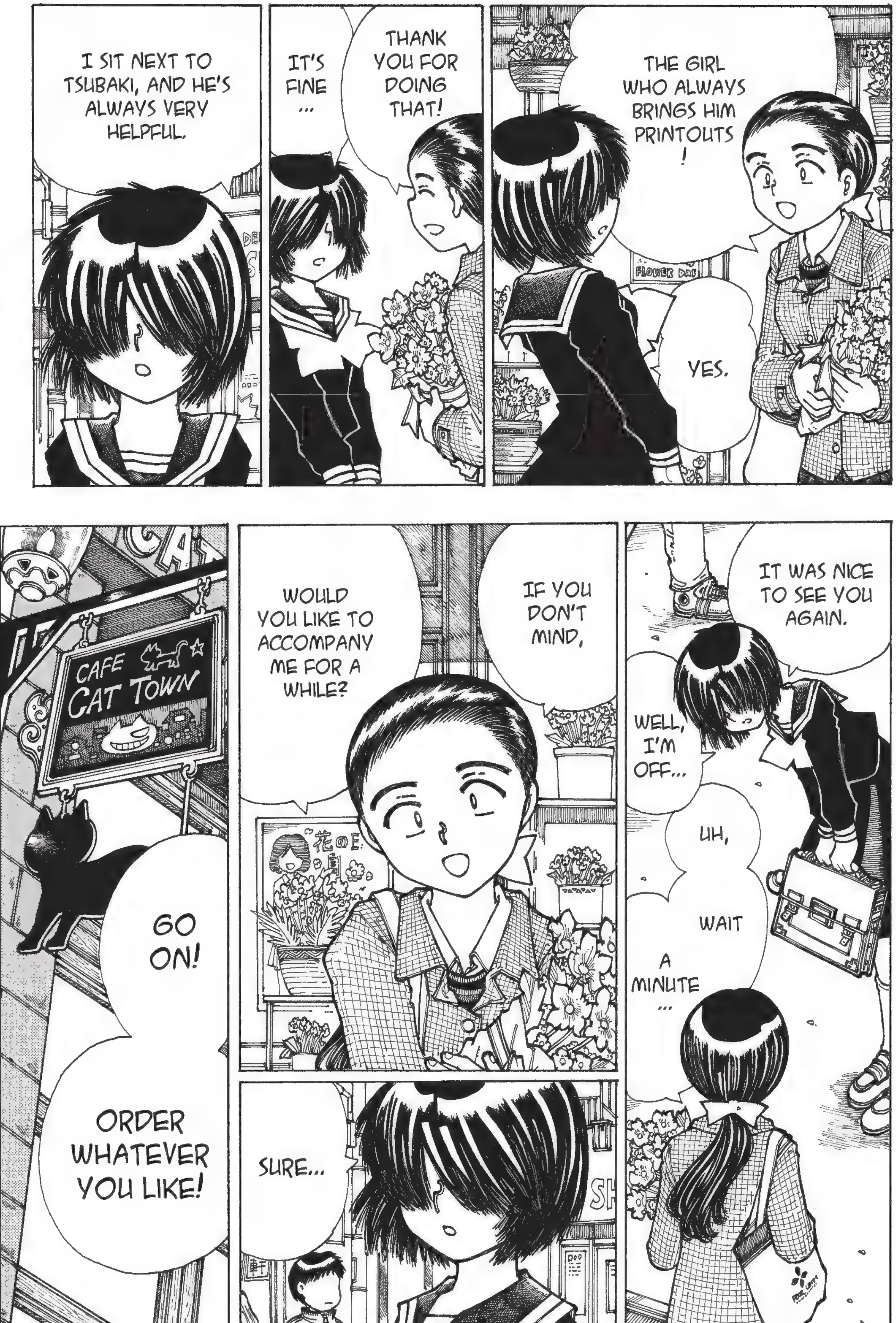

OH,
SHE TOOK OUT THE HEATED TABLE TODAY...
TRAIN
SWING TIME
SIS, I'M HOME!
GUESS SHE'S ASLEEP...
YOUKO!
I'M...
HOME...

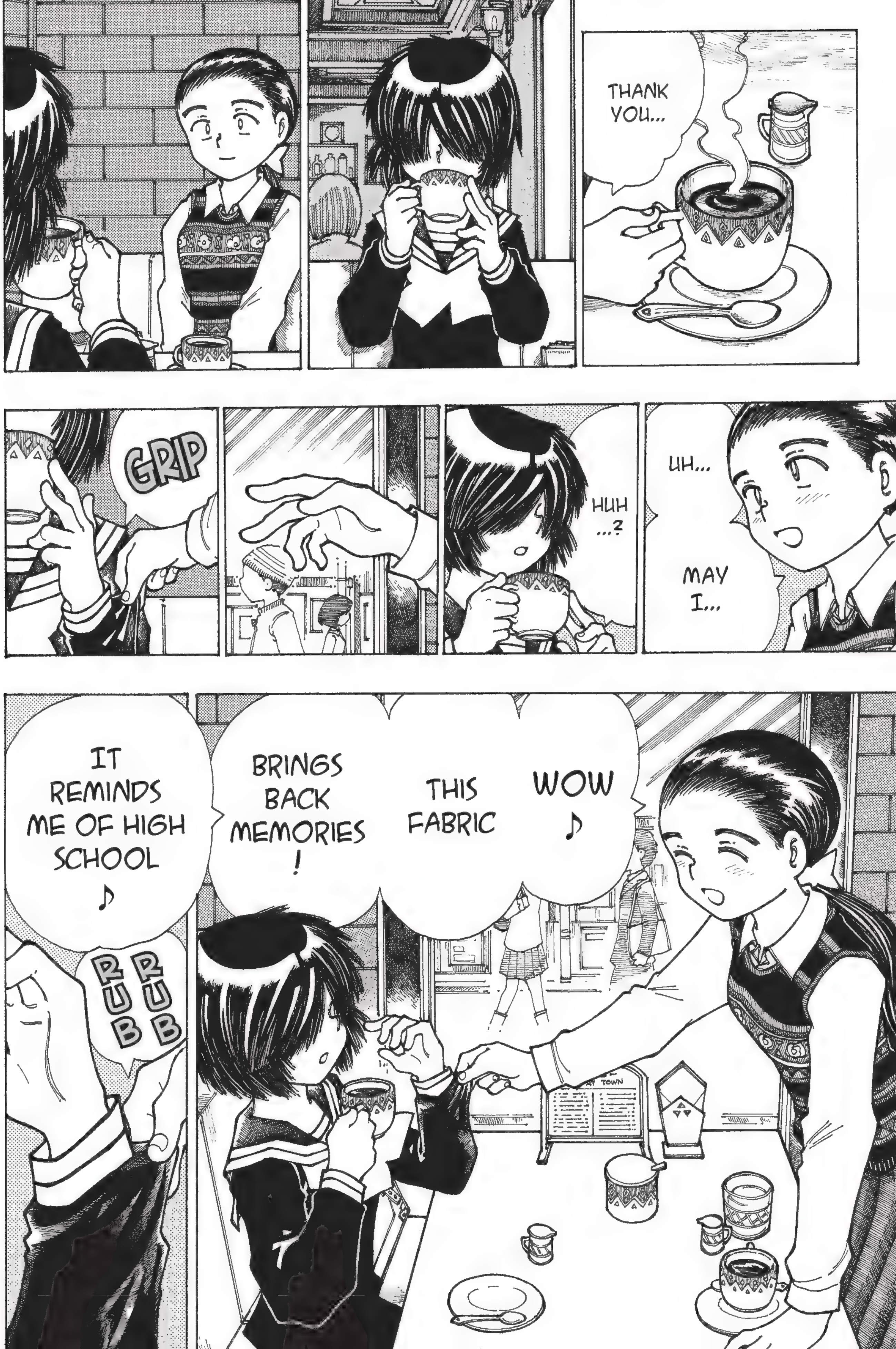

MNF...
AH...
OH!
AKIRA!
WELCOME HOME!
ばっ
JUMP
THE HEATED TABLE FELT SO NICE, I DRIFTED OFF...!

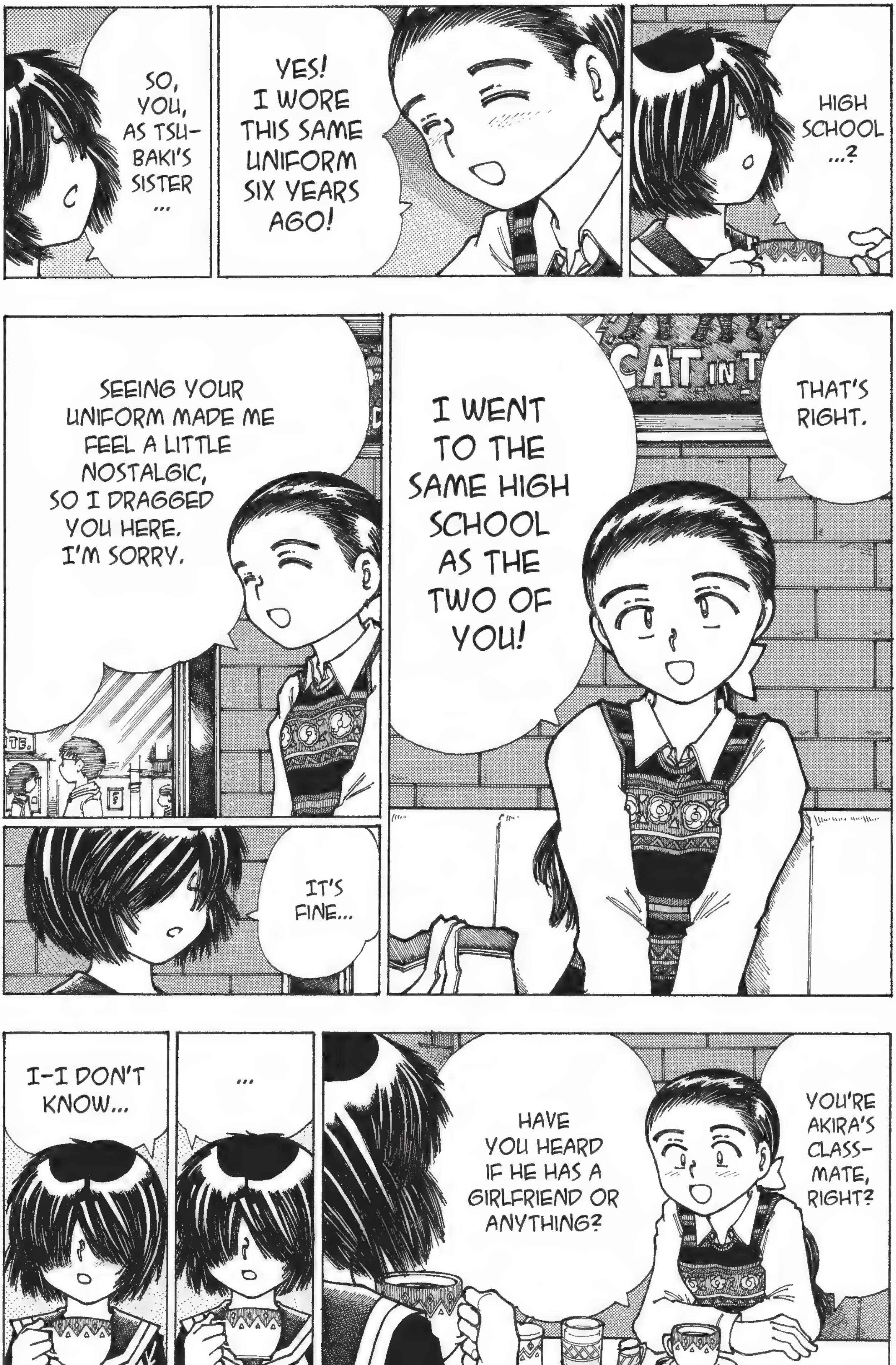

IT'S COLD OUTSIDE, RIGHT?
WANT SOME COFFEE?
UHM... SIS...
HM? WHAT?
YOU'VE GOT DROOL ON YOUR MOUTH...
HUH?
OH, NO! YOU'RE RIGHT!
HEY, SIS...
HUH?
WHAT?
DO YOU HAVE A BOYFRIEND?

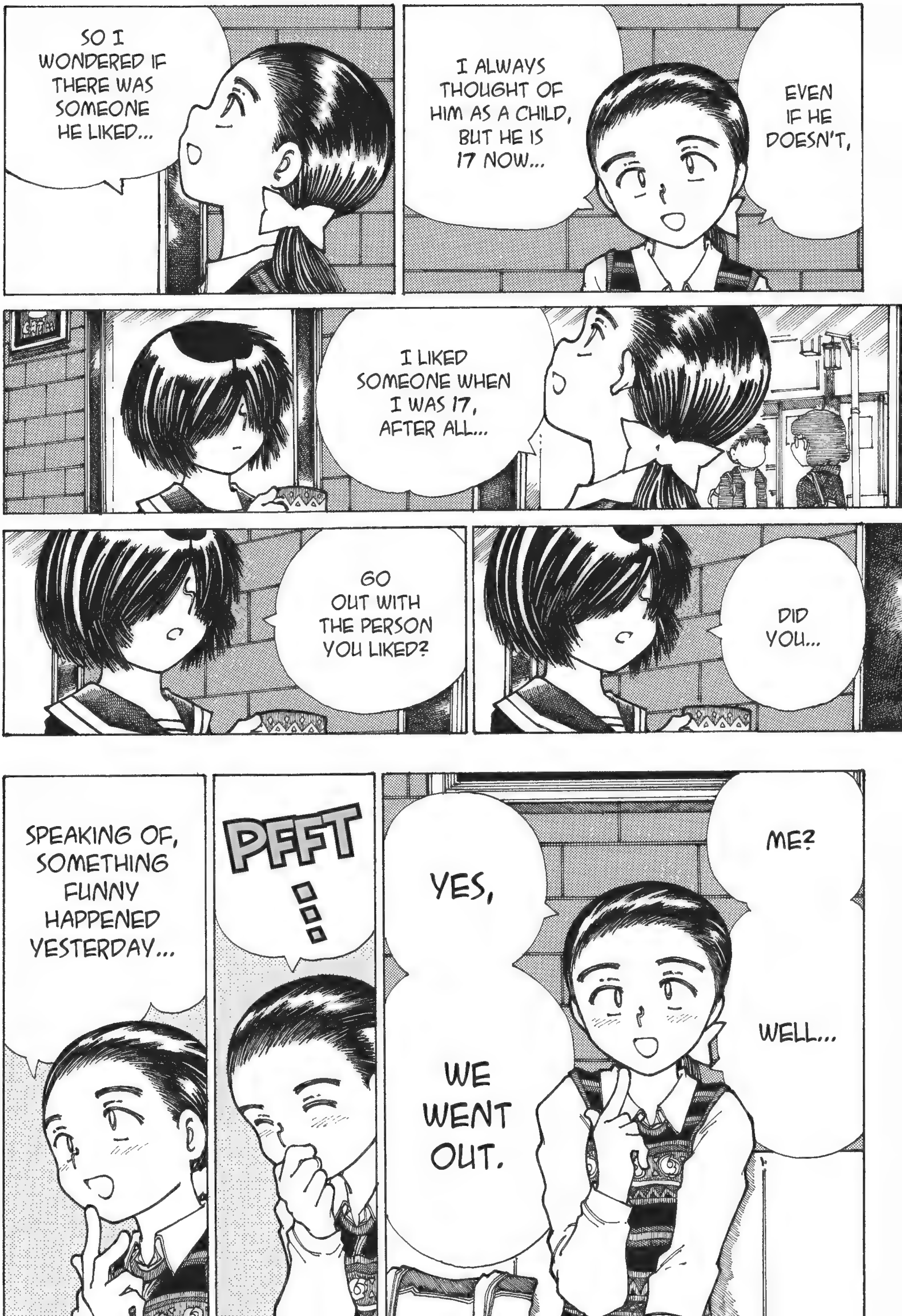

IF SHE HAS A BOYFRIEND, I WONDER IF HE'D THINK SHE LOOKED CUTE WITH DROOL ON HER FACE...
YOU'RE SUCH A WEIRDO!
WH- WHERE DID THAT COME FROM?!
OH...
NO REASON ...
SWEET
KAZAMIDAI SHOPPING DISTRICT
AMIDAI SHOPPING DIS
BOOK SHOP

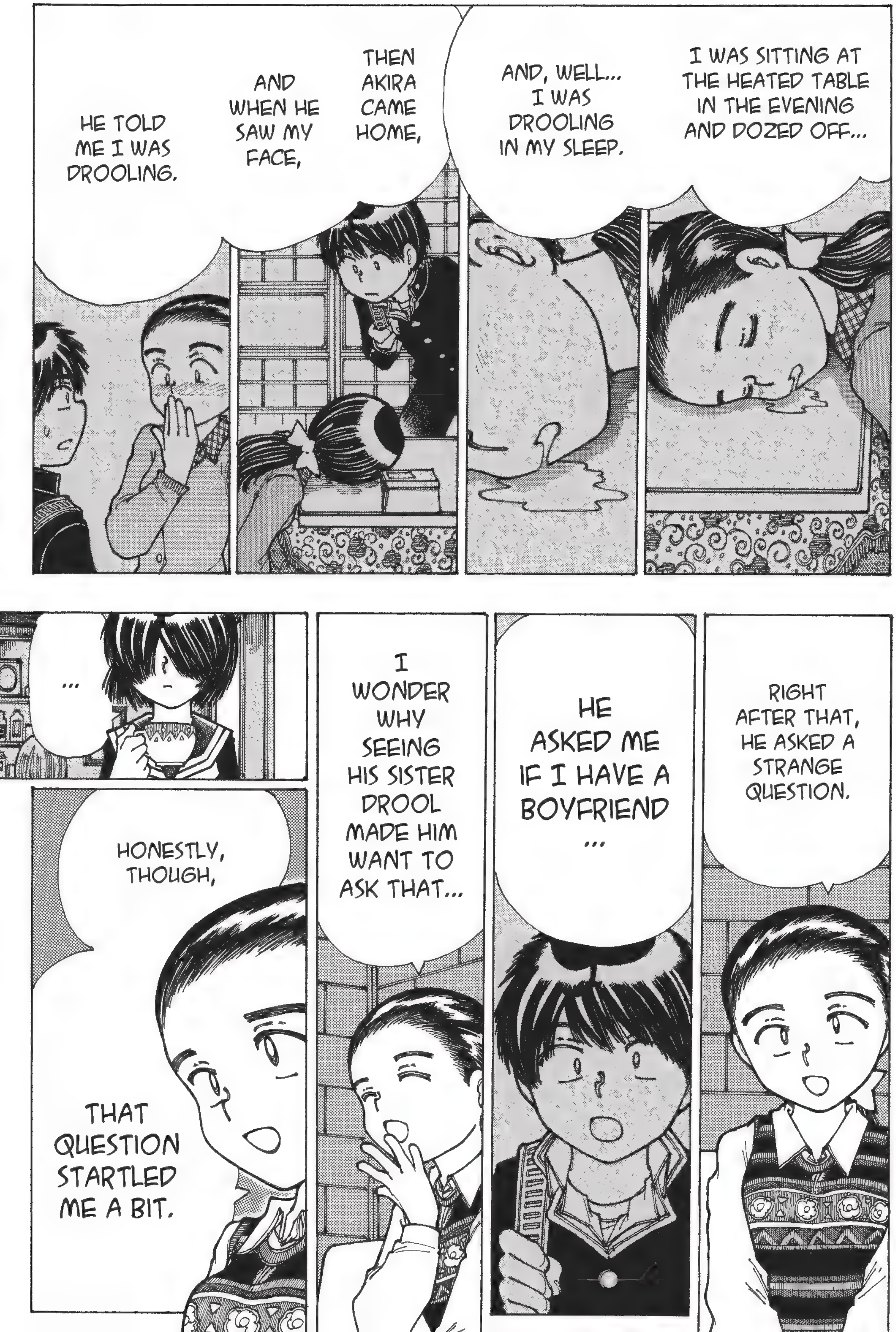

THANK YOU VERY MUCH!
THANK YOU!
EXCUSE ME...
YOU'RE TSUBAKI'S SISTER, AREN'T YOU?
HUH...?
I'M URABE, FROM TSUBAKI'S CLASS.
IT'S BEEN A WHILE.
LEAVES
OH! YOU'RE ...

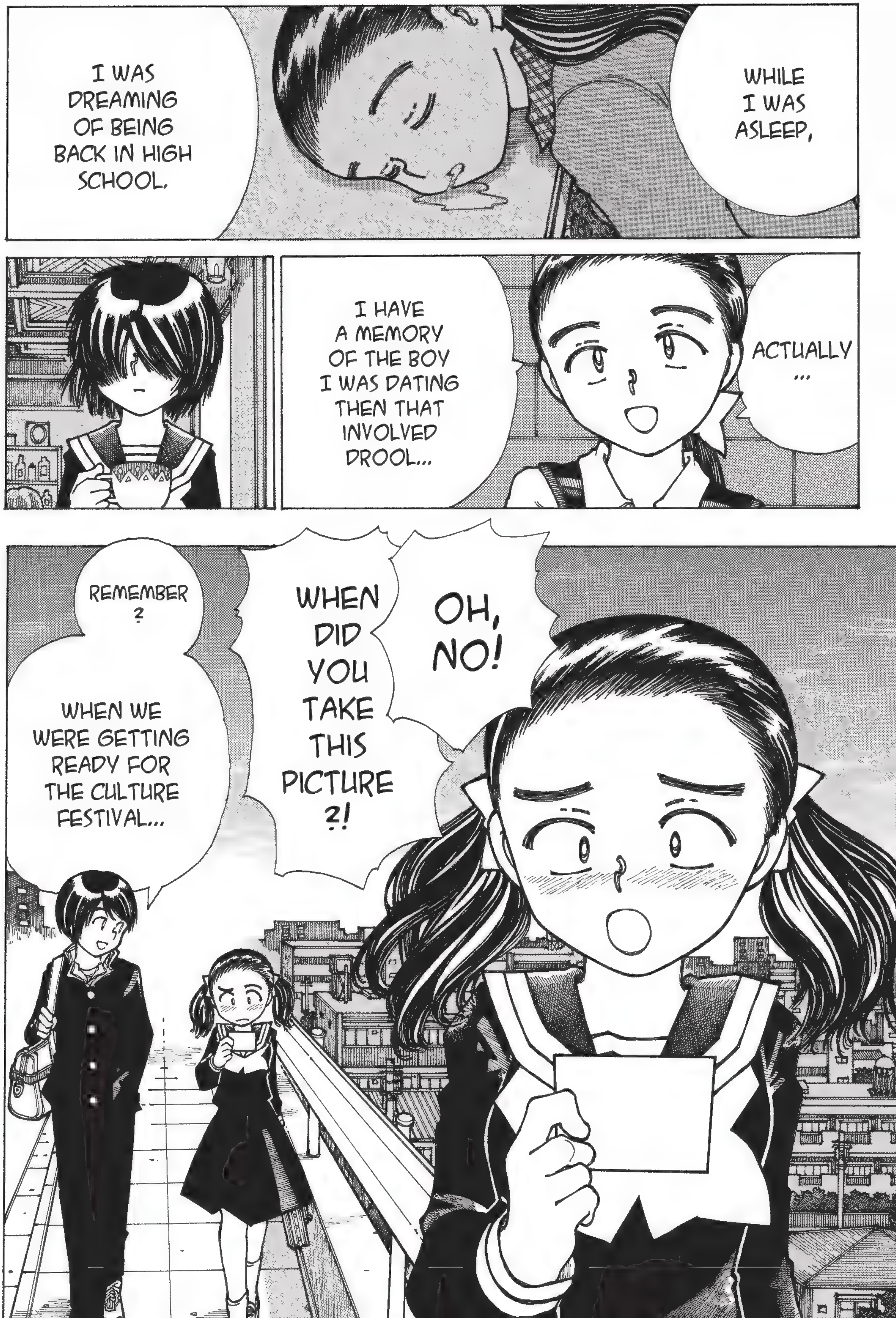

THE GIRL WHO ALWAYS BRINGS HIM PRINTOUTS!
FLOWER DAY
YES.
THANK YOU FOR DOING THAT!
IT'S FINE ...
I SIT NEXT TO TSUBAKI, AND HE'S ALWAYS VERY HELPFUL.
IT WAS NICE TO SEE YOU AGAIN.
WELL, I'M OFF...
UH,
WAIT
A MINUTE ...
IF YOU DON'T MIND,
WOULD YOU LIKE TO ACCOMPANY ME FOR A WHILE?
SURE...
CAFE CAT TOWN
GO ON!
ORDER WHATEVER YOU LIKE!

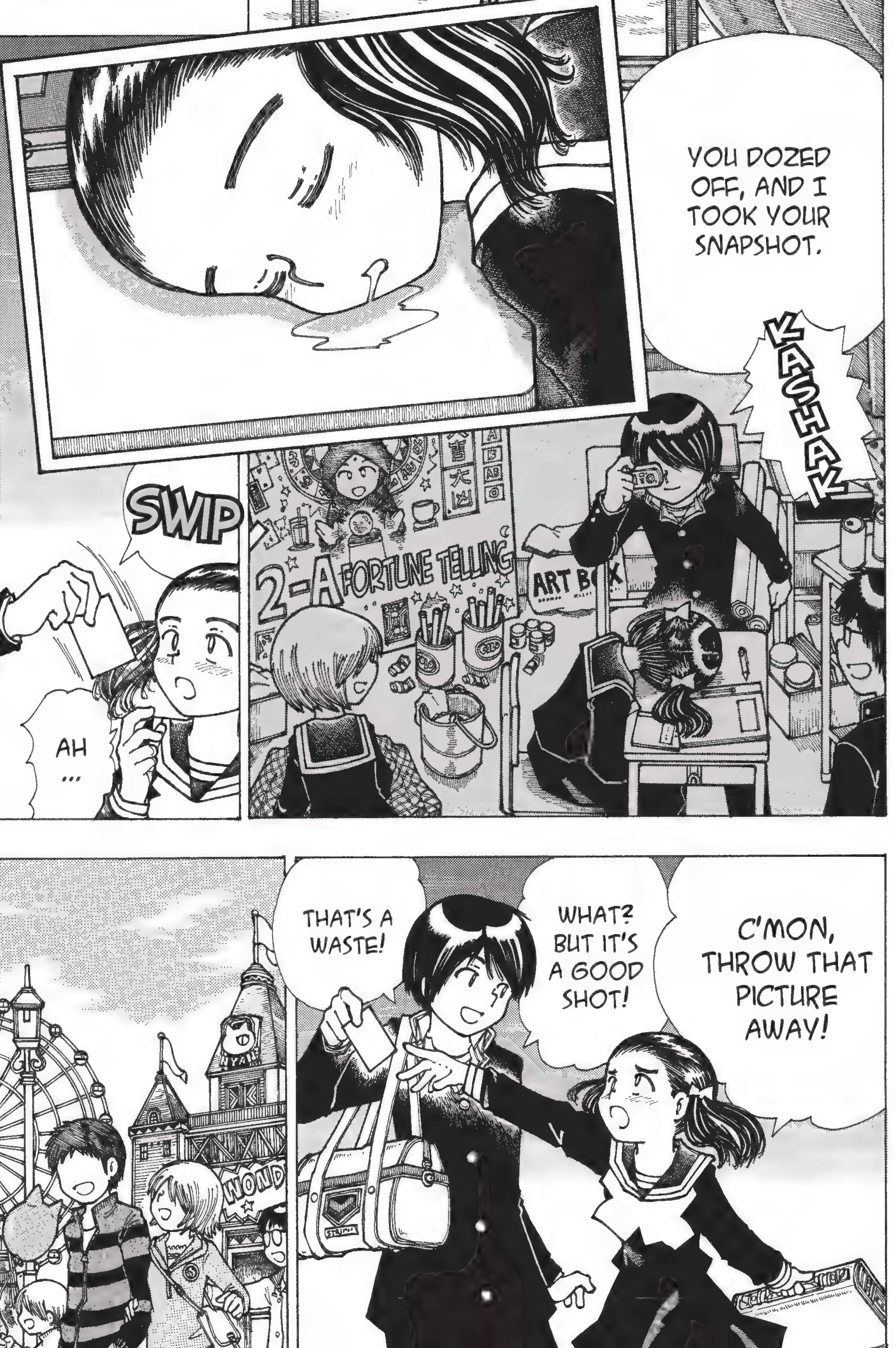

THANK YOU...
UH...
MAY I...
HUH ...?
GRIP
WOW ♪
THIS FABRIC
BRINGS BACK MEMORIES!
IT REMINDS ME OF HIGH SCHOOL ♪
RUB RUB

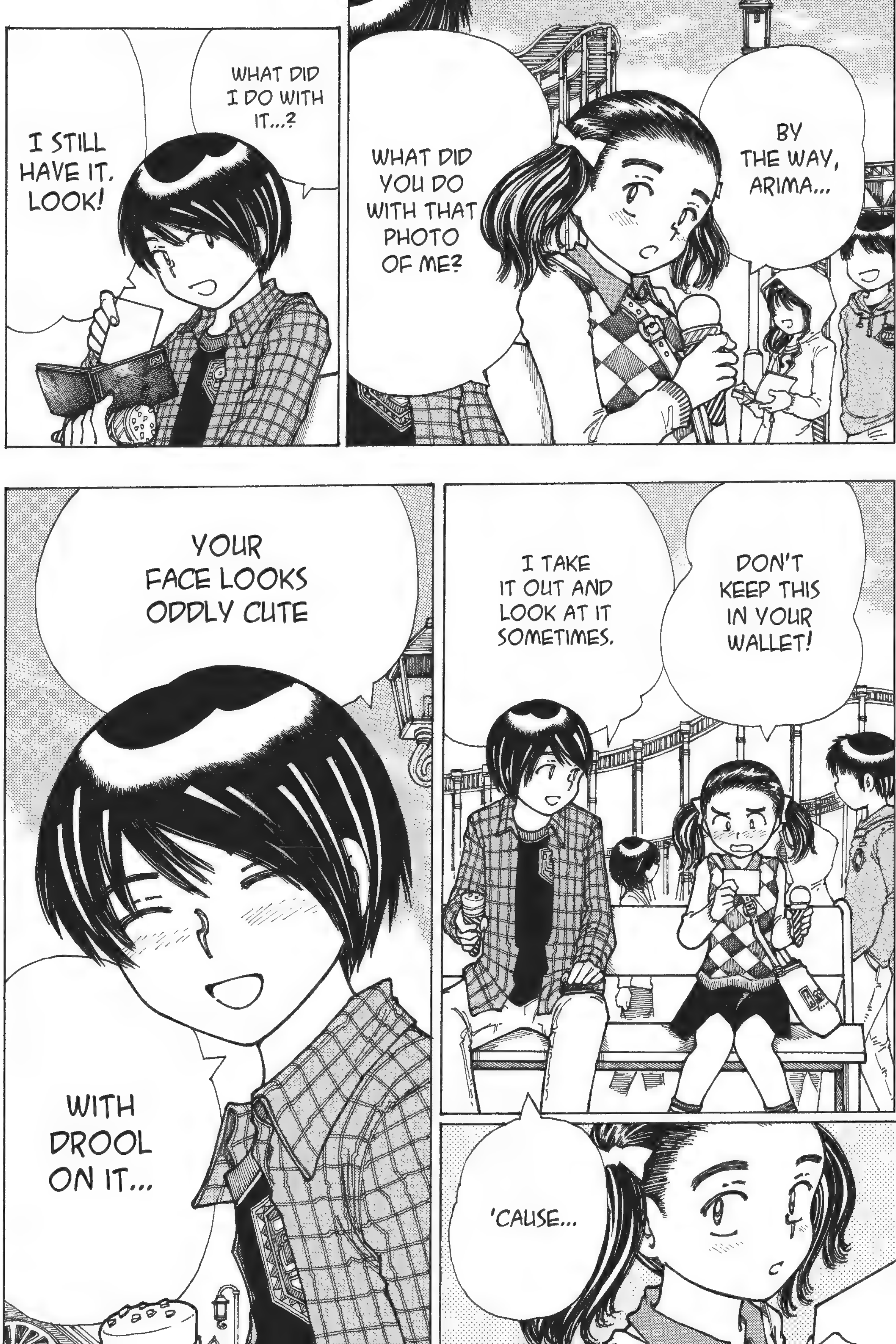

HIGH SCHOOL ...?
YES! I WORE THIS SAME UNIFORM SIX YEARS AGO!
SO, YOU, AS TSUBAKI'S SISTER ...
CAT IN T
THAT'S RIGHT.
I WENT TO THE SAME HIGH SCHOOL AS THE TWO OF YOU!
SEEING YOUR UNIFORM MADE ME FEEL A LITTLE NOSTALGIC, SO I DRAGGED YOU HERE. I'M SORRY.
IT'S FINE...
YOU'RE AKIRA'S CLASSMATE, RIGHT?
HAVE YOU HEARD IF HE HAS A GIRLFRIEND OR ANYTHING?
...
I-I DON'T KNOW...

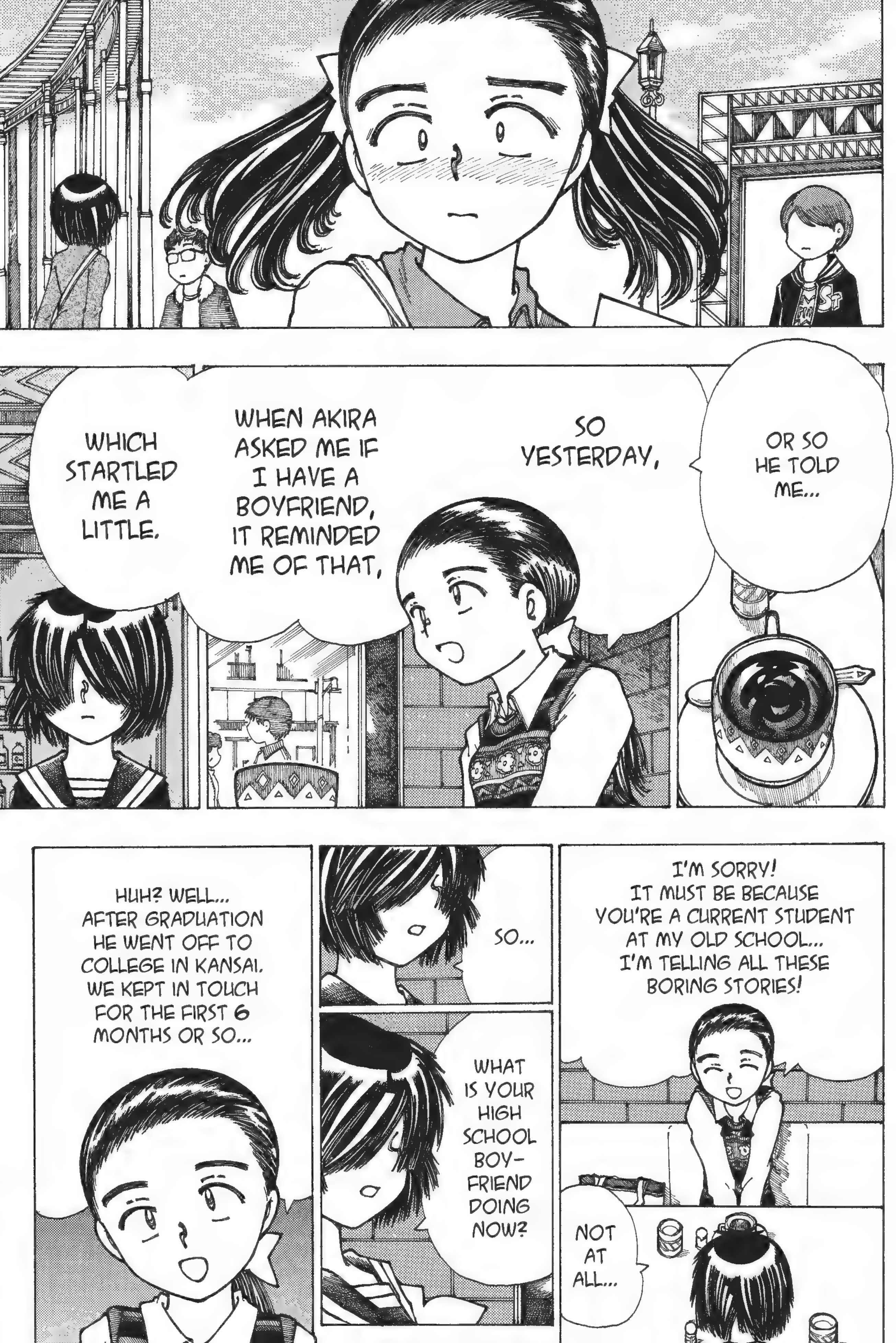

EVEN IF HE DOESN'T,
I ALWAYS THOUGHT OF HIM AS A CHILD, BUT HE IS 17 NOW...
SO I WONDERED IF THERE WAS SOMEONE HE LIKED...
I LIKED SOMEONE WHEN I WAS 17, AFTER ALL...
DID YOU...
GO OUT WITH THE PERSON YOU LIKED?
ME?
YES,
WELL...
WE WENT OUT.
PFFT
...
SPEAKING OF, SOMETHING FUNNY HAPPENED YESTERDAY...

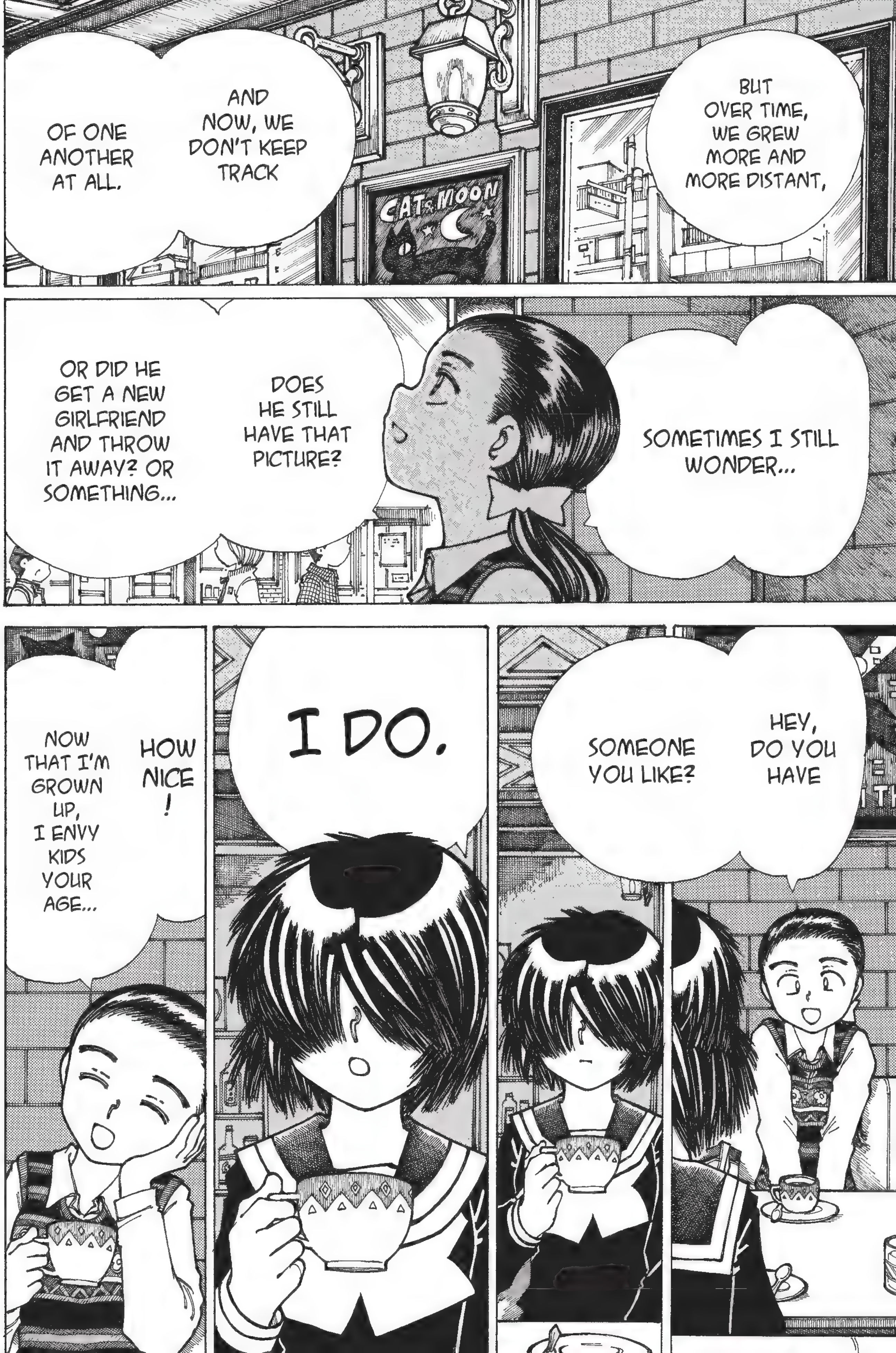

I WAS SITTING AT THE HEATED TABLE IN THE EVENING AND DOZED OFF...
AND, WELL... I WAS DROOLING IN MY SLEEP.
THEN AKIRA CAME HOME,
AND WHEN HE SAW MY FACE,
HE TOLD ME I WAS DROOLING.
RIGHT AFTER THAT, HE ASKED A STRANGE QUESTION.
HE ASKED ME IF I HAVE A BOYFRIEND...
I WONDER WHY SEEING HIS SISTER DROOL MADE HIM WANT TO ASK THAT...
...
HONESTLY, THOUGH,
THAT QUESTION STARTLED ME A BIT.

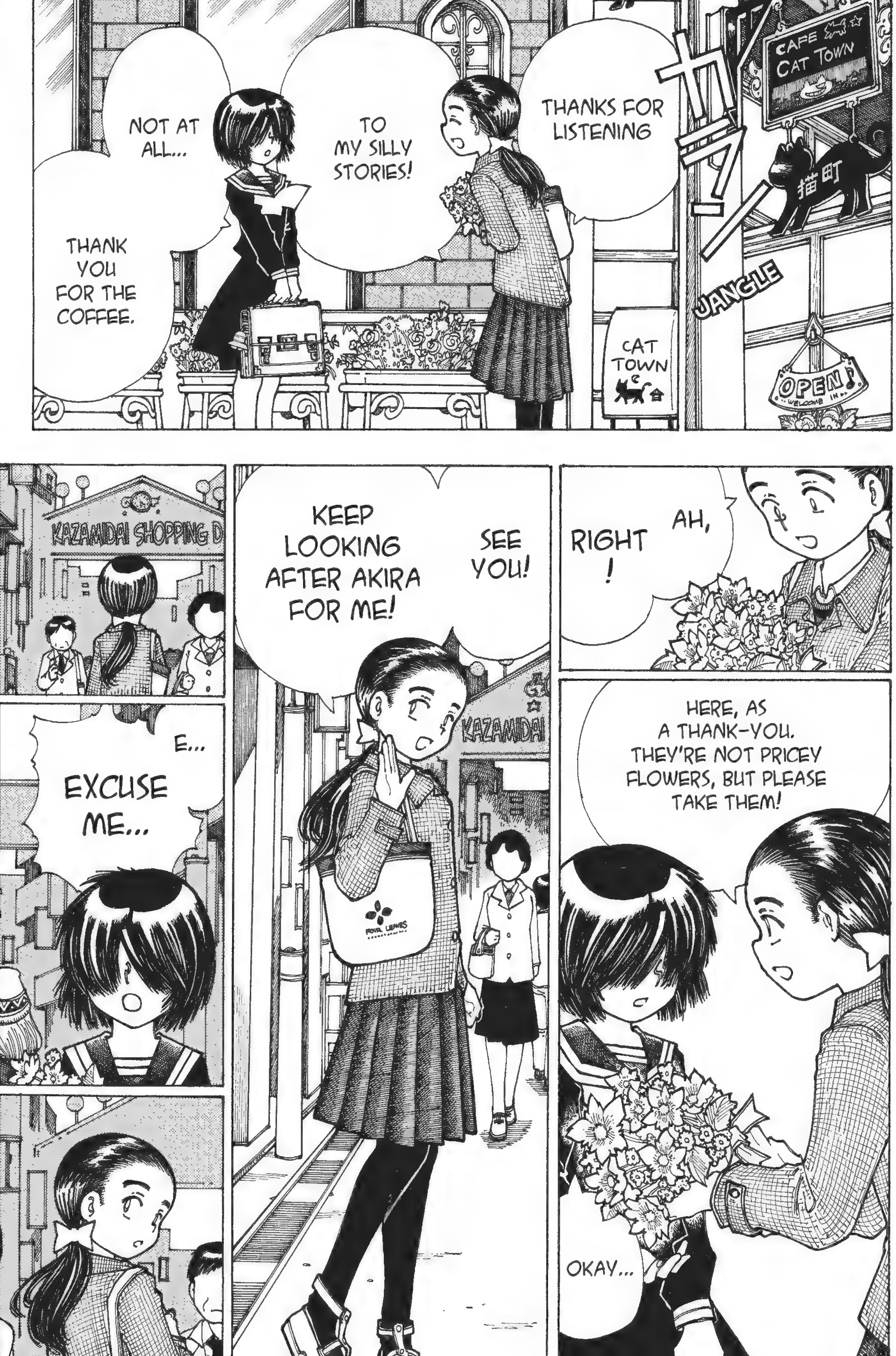

WHILE I WAS ASLEEP,
I WAS DREAMING OF BEING BACK IN HIGH SCHOOL.
ACTUALLY ...
I HAVE A MEMORY OF THE BOY I WAS DATING THEN THAT INVOLVED DROOL...
OH, NO!
WHEN DID YOU TAKE THIS PICTURE?!
REMEMBER?
WHEN WE WERE GETTING READY FOR THE CULTURE FESTIVAL...

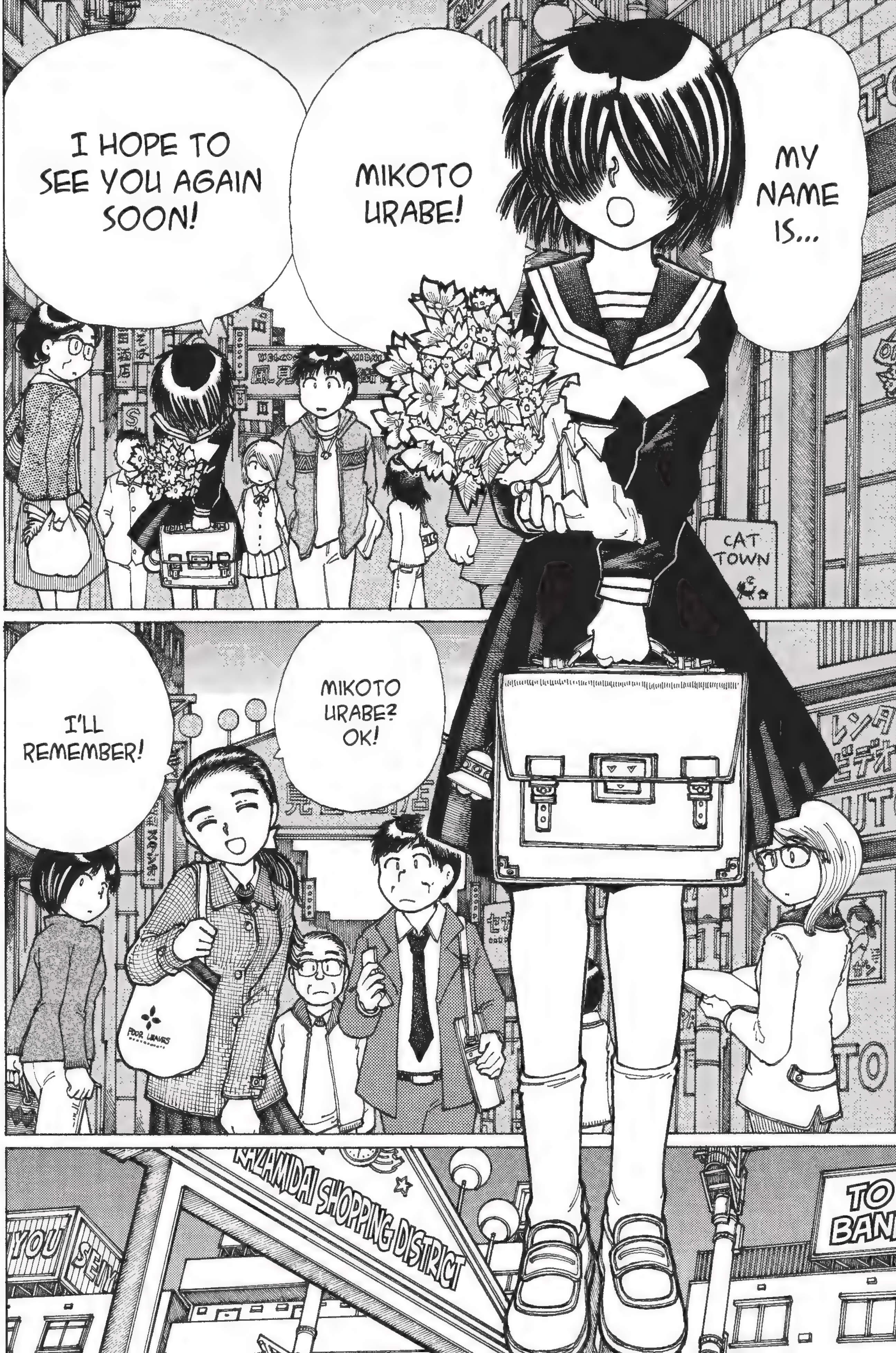

YOU DOZED OFF, AND I TOOK YOUR SNAPSHOT.
KASHAK
2-A FORTUNE TELLING
ART BOX
SWIP
AH ...
C'MON, THROW THAT PICTURE AWAY!
WHAT? BUT IT'S A GOOD SHOT!
THAT'S A WASTE!
WOND
NYA

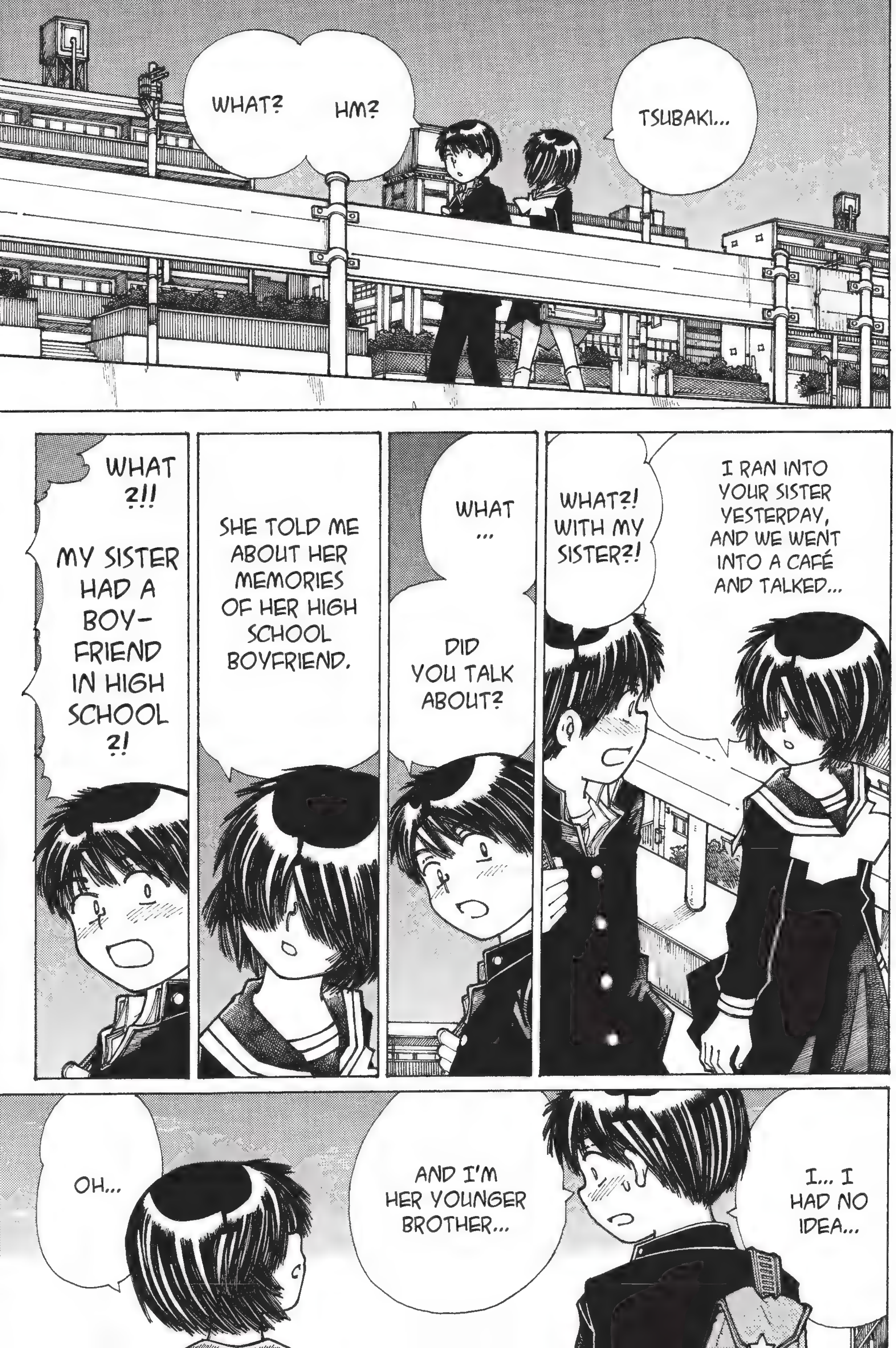

BY THE WAY, ARIMA...
WHAT DID YOU DO WITH THAT PHOTO OF ME?
WHAT DID I DO WITH IT...?
I STILL HAVE IT. LOOK!
DON'T KEEP THIS IN YOUR WALLET!
I TAKE IT OUT AND LOOK AT IT SOMETIMES.
'CAUSE...
YOUR FACE LOOKS ODDLY CUTE
WITH DROOL ON IT...

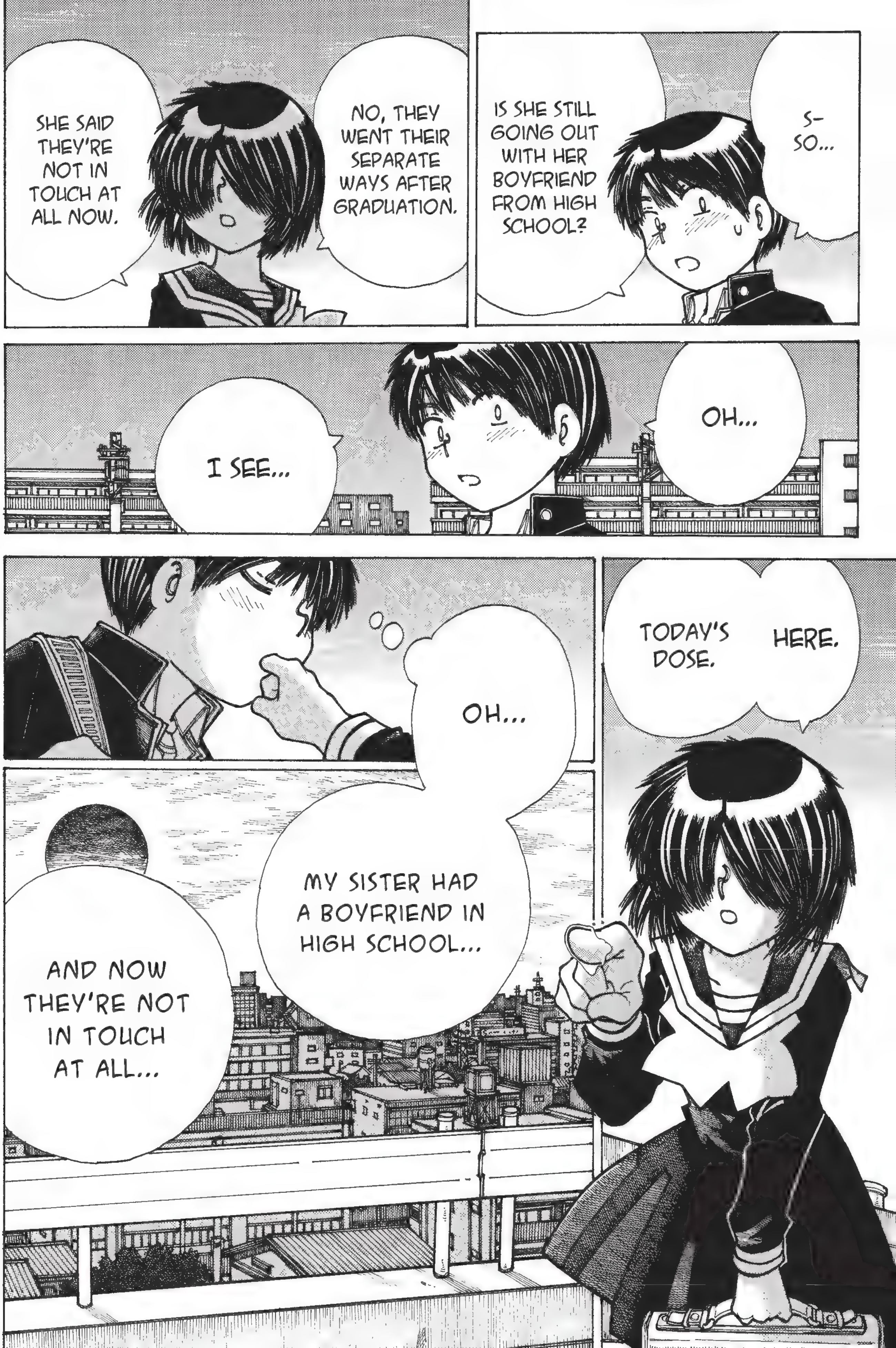

OR SO HE TOLD ME...
SO YESTERDAY,
WHEN AKIRA ASKED ME IF I HAVE A BOYFRIEND, IT REMINDED ME OF THAT,
WHICH STARTLED ME A LITTLE.
I'M SORRY! IT MUST BE BECAUSE YOU'RE A CURRENT STUDENT AT MY OLD SCHOOL... I'M TELLING ALL THESE BORING STORIES!
NOT AT ALL...
SO...
WHAT IS YOUR HIGH SCHOOL BOY-FRIEND DOING NOW?
HUH? WELL... AFTER GRADUATION HE WENT OFF TO COLLEGE IN KANSAI. WE KEPT IN TOUCH FOR THE FIRST 6 MONTHS OR SO...

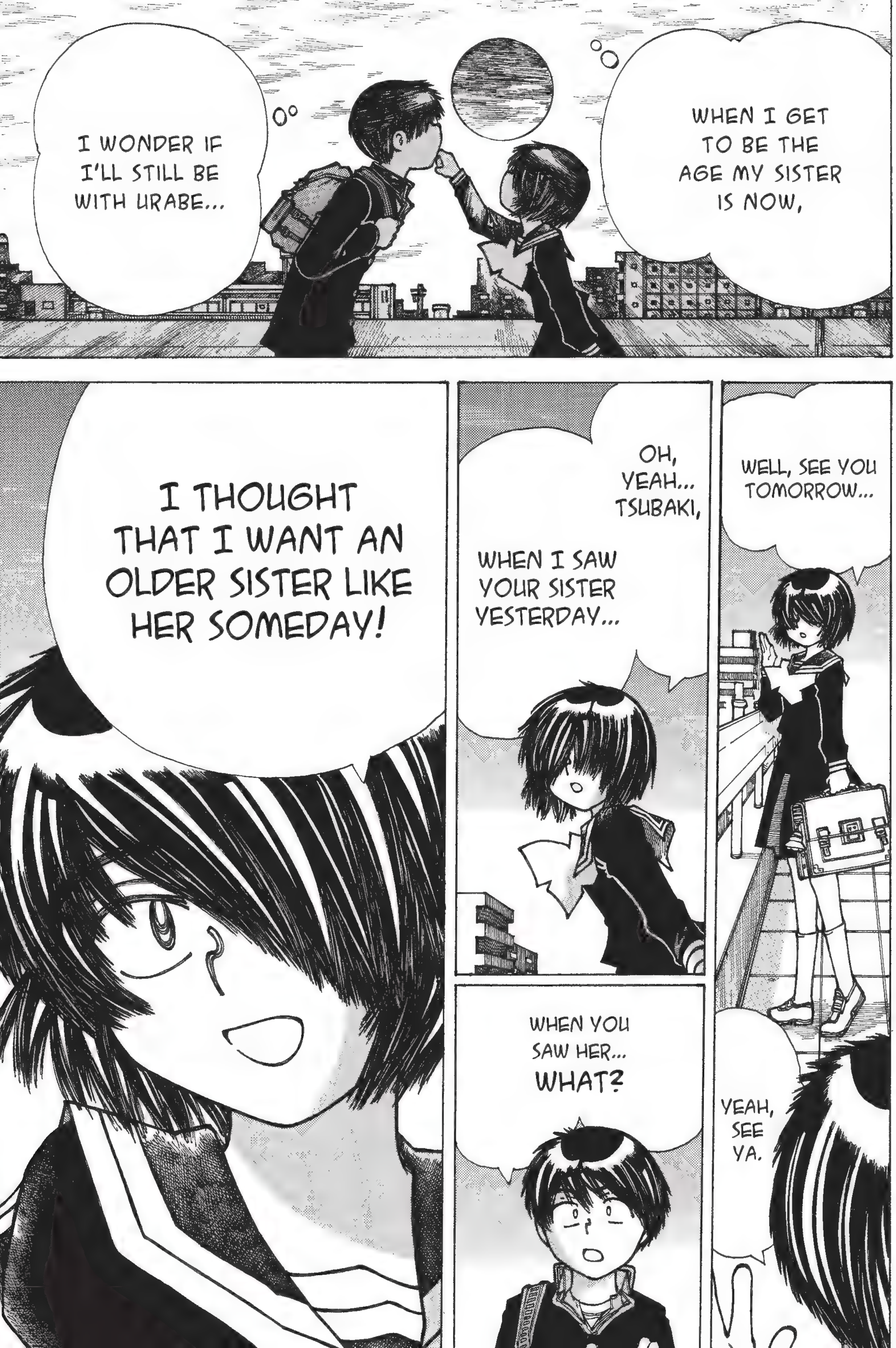

BUT OVER TIME, WE GREW MORE AND MORE DISTANT,
AND NOW, WE DON'T KEEP TRACK
OF ONE ANOTHER AT ALL.
CAT'S MOON
SOMETIMES I STILL WONDER...
DOES HE STILL HAVE THAT PICTURE?
OR DID HE GET A NEW GIRLFRIEND AND THROW IT AWAY? OR SOMETHING...
HEY, DO YOU HAVE
SOMEONE YOU LIKE?
I DO.
HOW NICE!
NOW THAT I'M GROWN UP, I ENVY KIDS YOUR AGE...

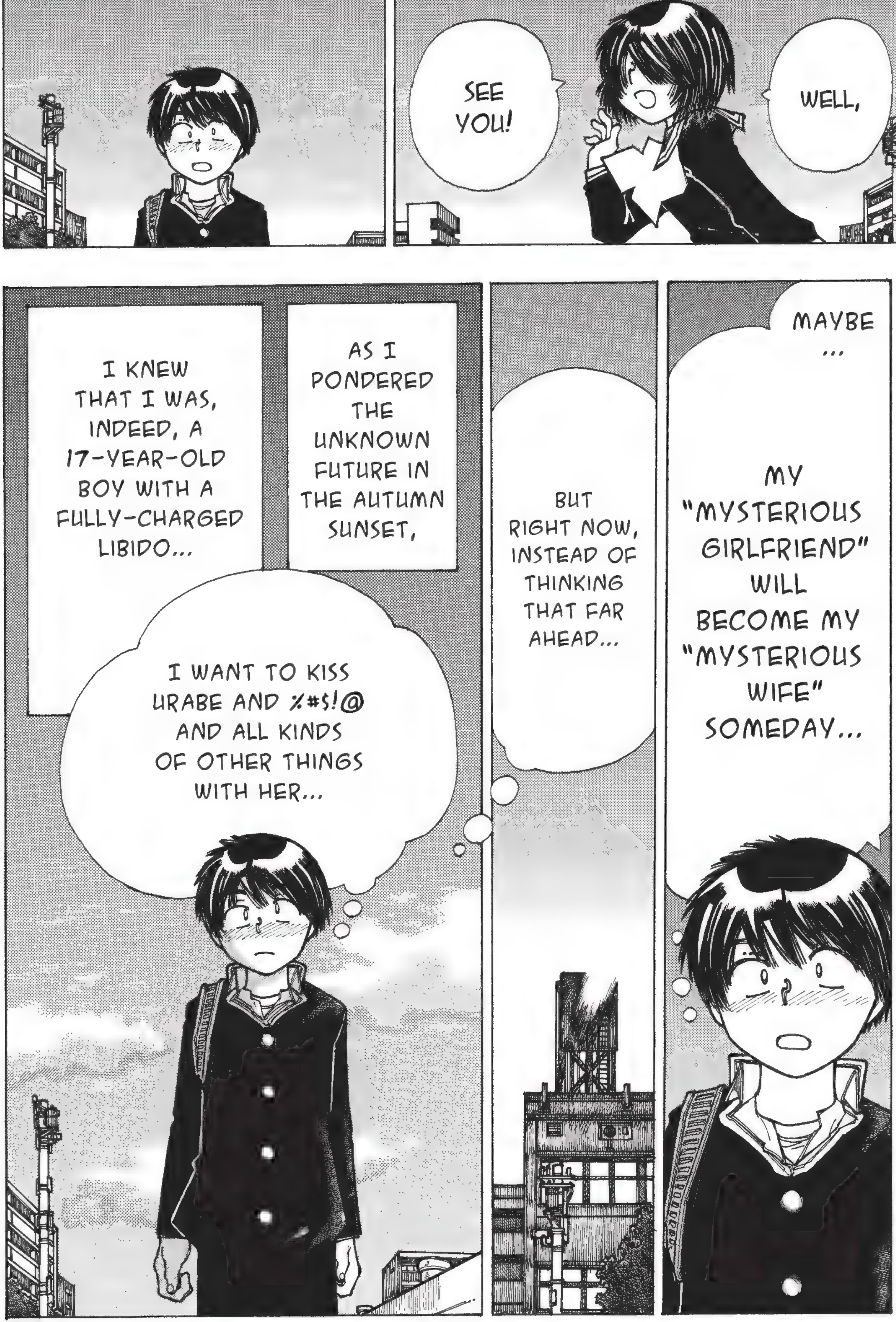

CAFE CAT TOWN
猫町
THANKS FOR LISTENING
TO MY SILLY STORIES!
NOT AT ALL...
THANK YOU FOR THE COFFEE.
JANGLE
CAT TOWN
OPEN WELCOME IN
AH, RIGHT!
HERE, AS A THANK-YOU. THEY'RE NOT PRICEY FLOWERS, BUT PLEASE TAKE THEM!
OKAY...
KEEP LOOKING AFTER AKIRA FOR ME!
SEE YOU!
KAZAMIDAI
KAZAMIDAI SHOPPING D
E... EXCUSE ME...


MY NAME IS...
MIKOTO URABE!
I HOPE TO SEE YOU AGAIN SOON!
CAT TOWN
MIKOTO URABE? OK!
I'LL REMEMBER!
FOUR LEAVES
NAZAMIDAI SHOPPING DISTRICT


TSUBAKI...
HM?
WHAT?
I RAN INTO YOUR SISTER YESTERDAY, AND WE WENT INTO A CAFÉ AND TALKED...
WHAT?! WITH MY SISTER?!
WHAT ...
DID YOU TALK ABOUT?
SHE TOLD ME ABOUT HER MEMORIES OF HER HIGH SCHOOL BOYFRIEND.
WHAT ?!!
MY SISTER HAD A BOYFRIEND IN HIGH SCHOOL ?!
I... I HAD NO IDEA...
AND I'M HER YOUNGER BROTHER...
OH...

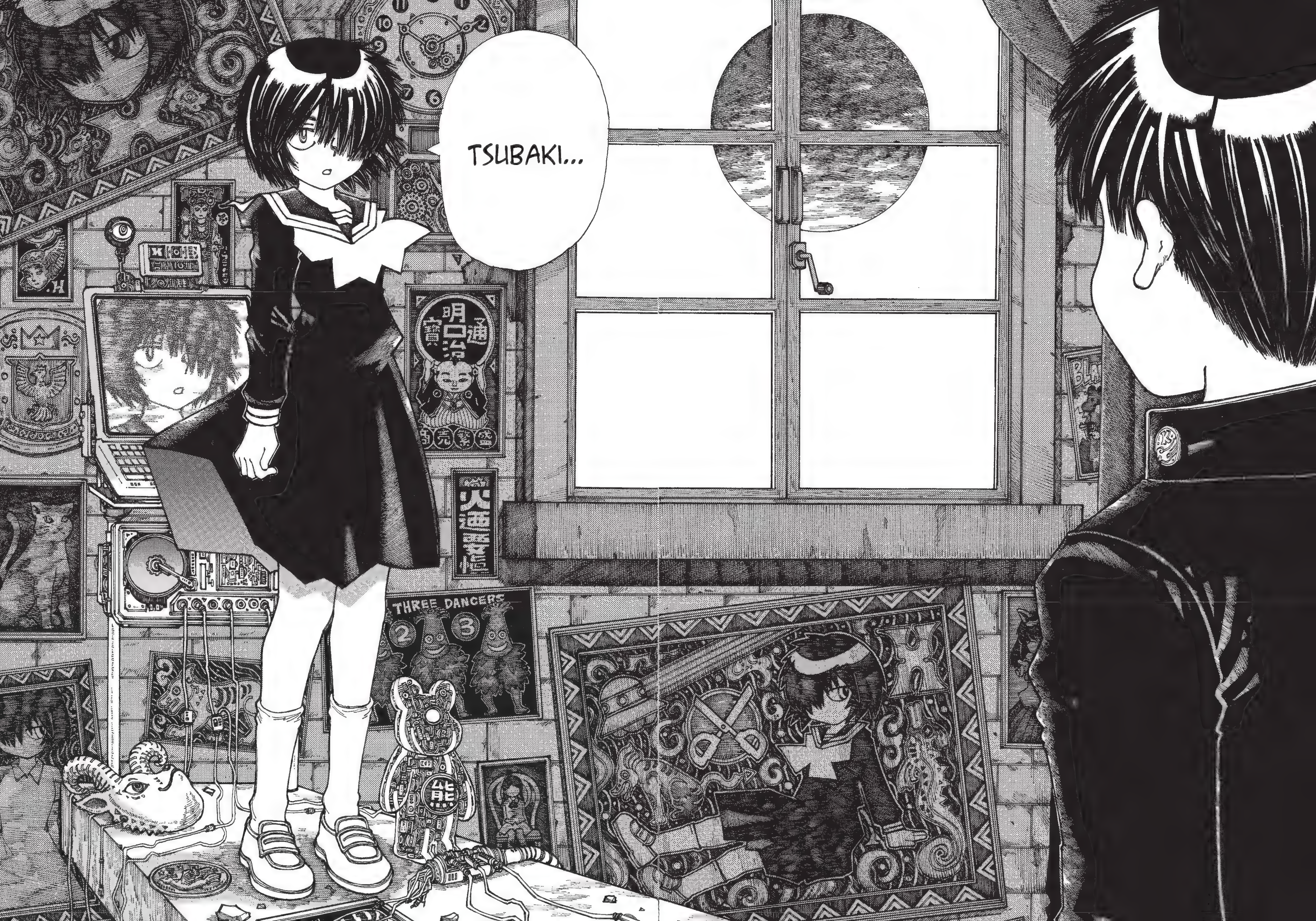

S-SO...
IS SHE STILL GOING OUT WITH HER BOYFRIEND FROM HIGH SCHOOL?
NO, THEY WENT THEIR SEPARATE WAYS AFTER GRADUATION.
SHE SAID THEY'RE NOT IN TOUCH AT ALL NOW.
OH...
I SEE...
HERE.
TODAY'S DOSE.
OH...
MY SISTER HAD A BOYFRIEND IN HIGH SCHOOL...
AND NOW THEY'RE NOT IN TOUCH AT ALL...

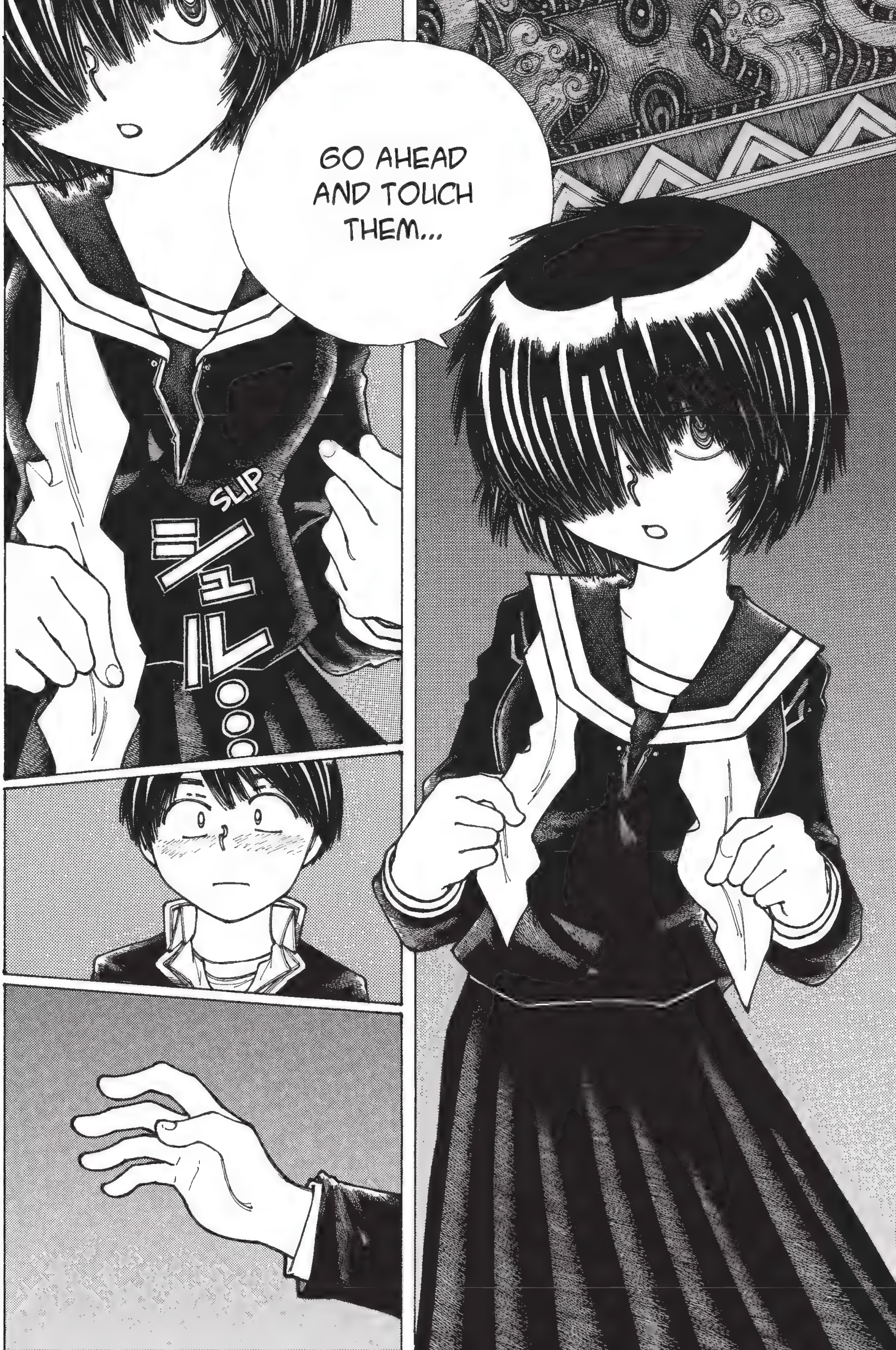

WHEN I GET TO BE THE AGE MY SISTER IS NOW,
I WONDER IF I'LL STILL BE WITH URABE...
WELL, SEE YOU TOMORROW...
YEAH, SEE YA.
OH, YEAH... TSUBAKI,
WHEN I SAW YOUR SISTER YESTERDAY...
WHEN YOU SAW HER... WHAT?
I THOUGHT THAT I WANT AN OLDER SISTER LIKE HER SOMEDAY!

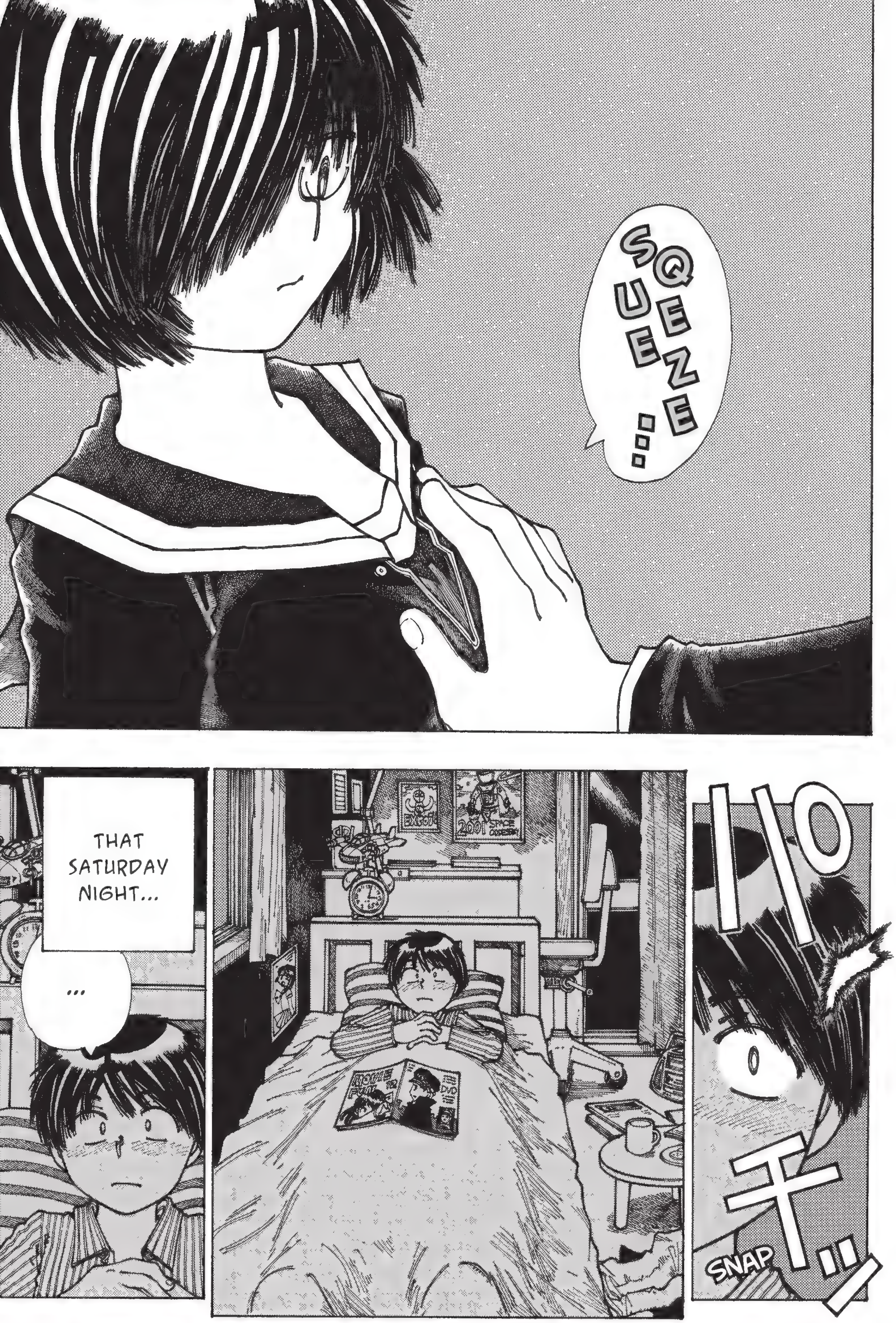

WELL,
SEE YOU!
MAYBE ...
MY "MYSTERIOUS GIRLFRIEND" WILL BECOME MY "MYSTERIOUS WIFE" SOMEDAY...
BUT RIGHT NOW, INSTEAD OF THINKING THAT FAR AHEAD...
AS I PONDERED THE UNKNOWN FUTURE IN THE AUTUMN SUNSET,
I KNEW THAT I WAS, INDEED, A 17-YEAR-OLD BOY WITH A FULLY-CHARGED LIBIDO...
I WANT TO KISS URABE AND %#$!@ AND ALL KINDS OF OTHER THINGS WITH HER...

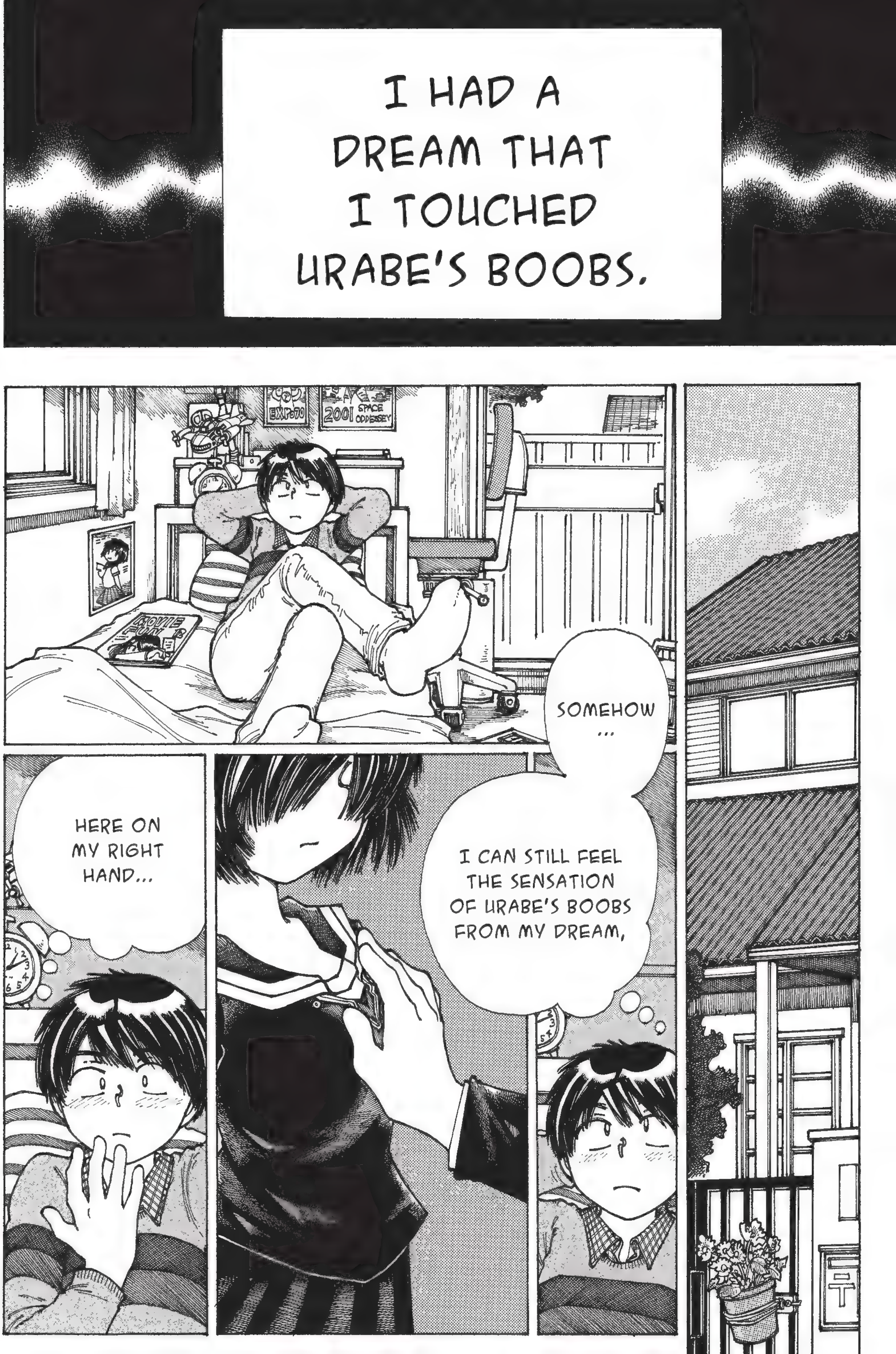
✂ END OF CHAPTER 19

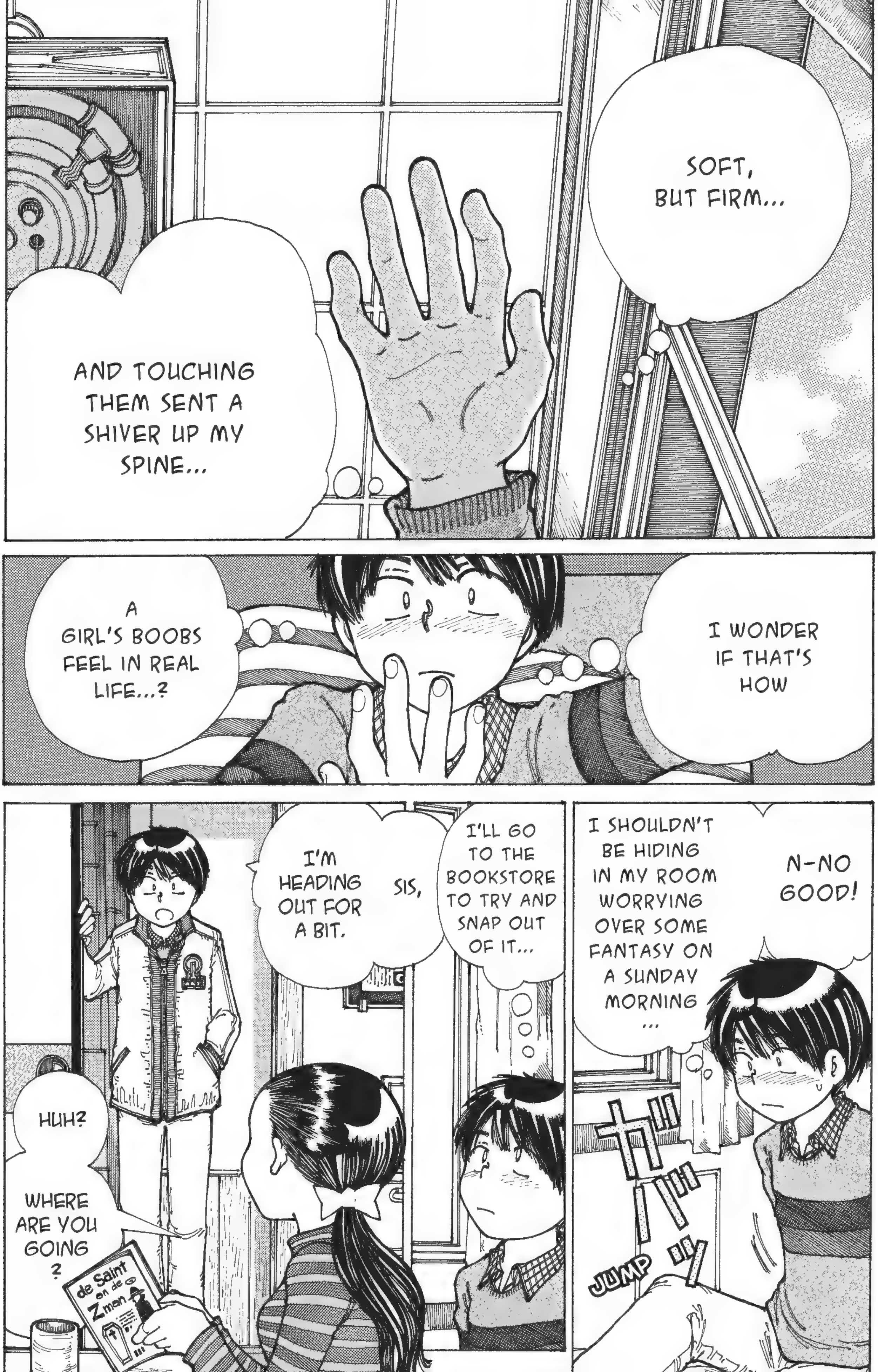
CHAPTER 20: MYSTERIOUS FEELING

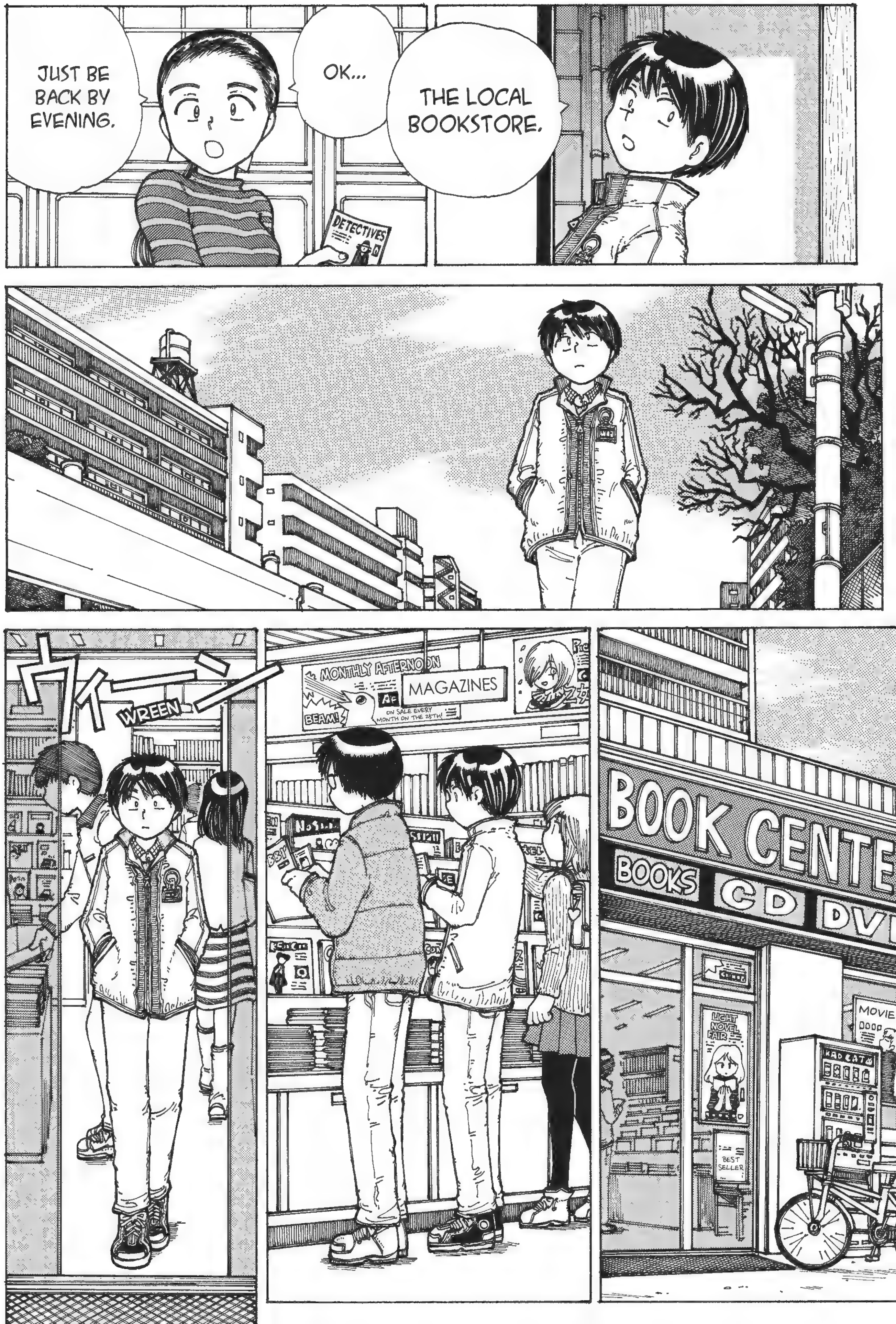

TSUBAKI...
THREE DANCERS
2
3
能

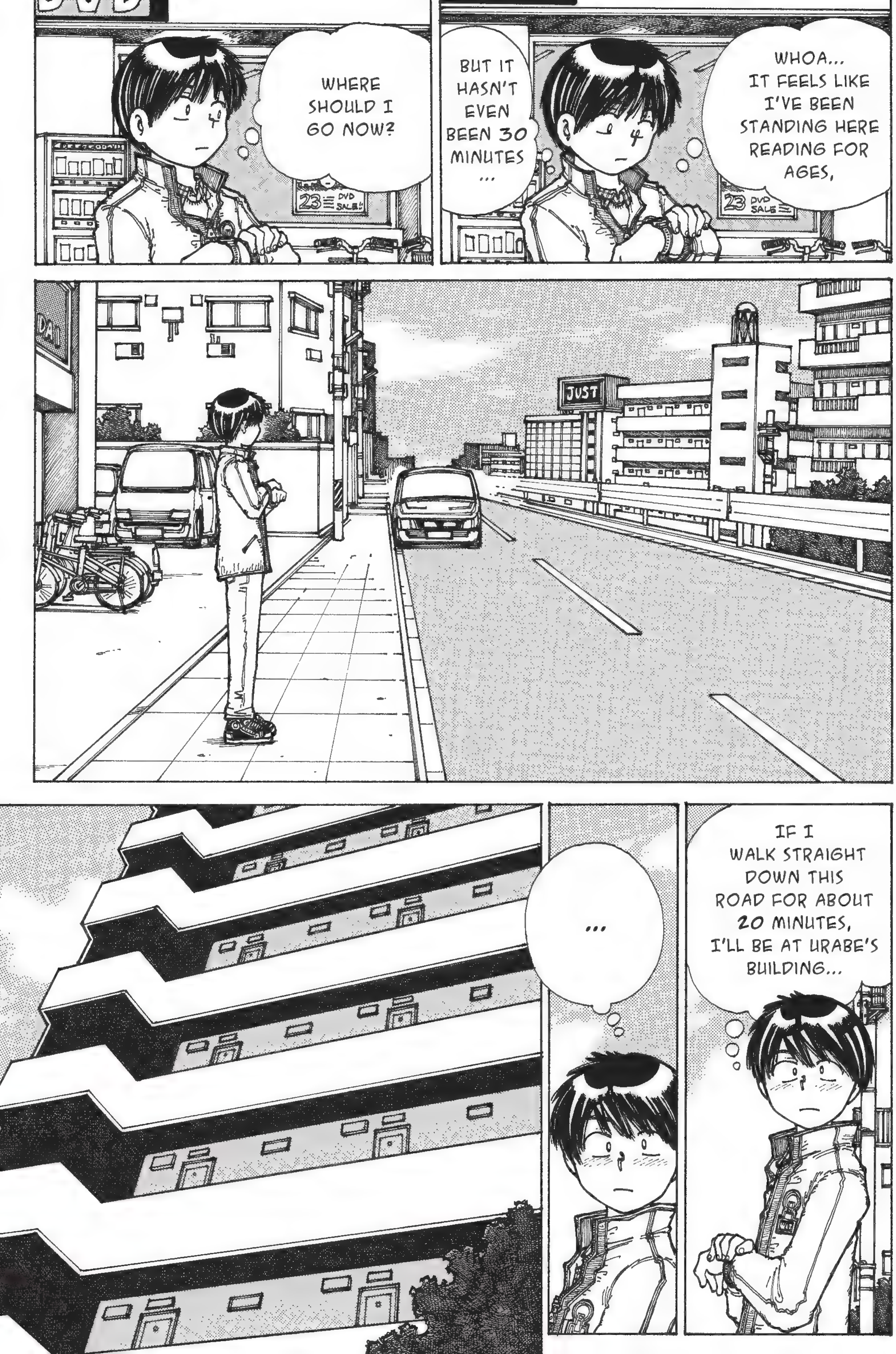

GO AHEAD AND TOUCH THEM...
SLIP
シュル○○○

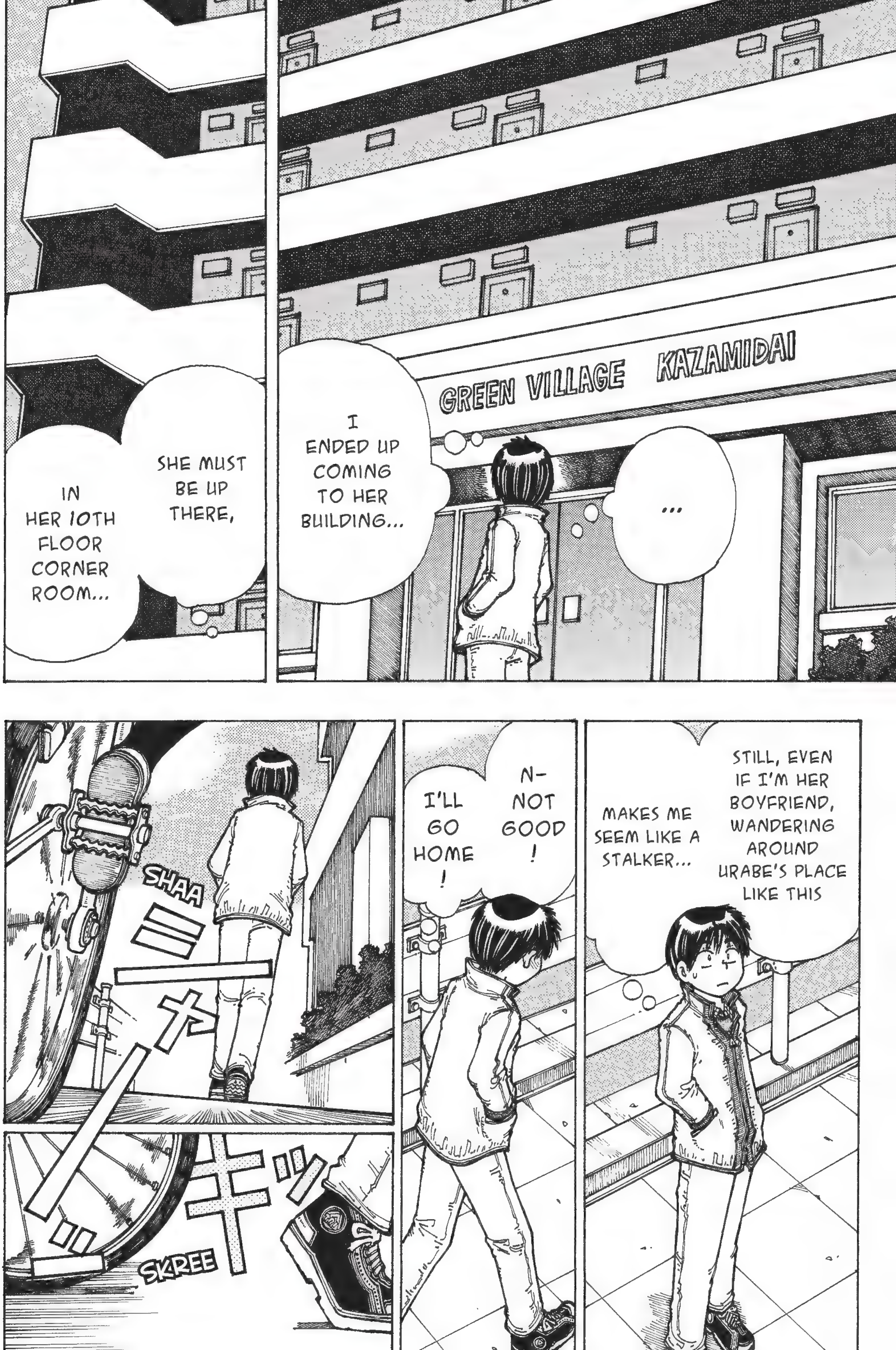

SQUEEZE...
THAT SATURDAY NIGHT...
...
2001 SPACE ODYSSEY
DVD
パ
ギッ
SNAP

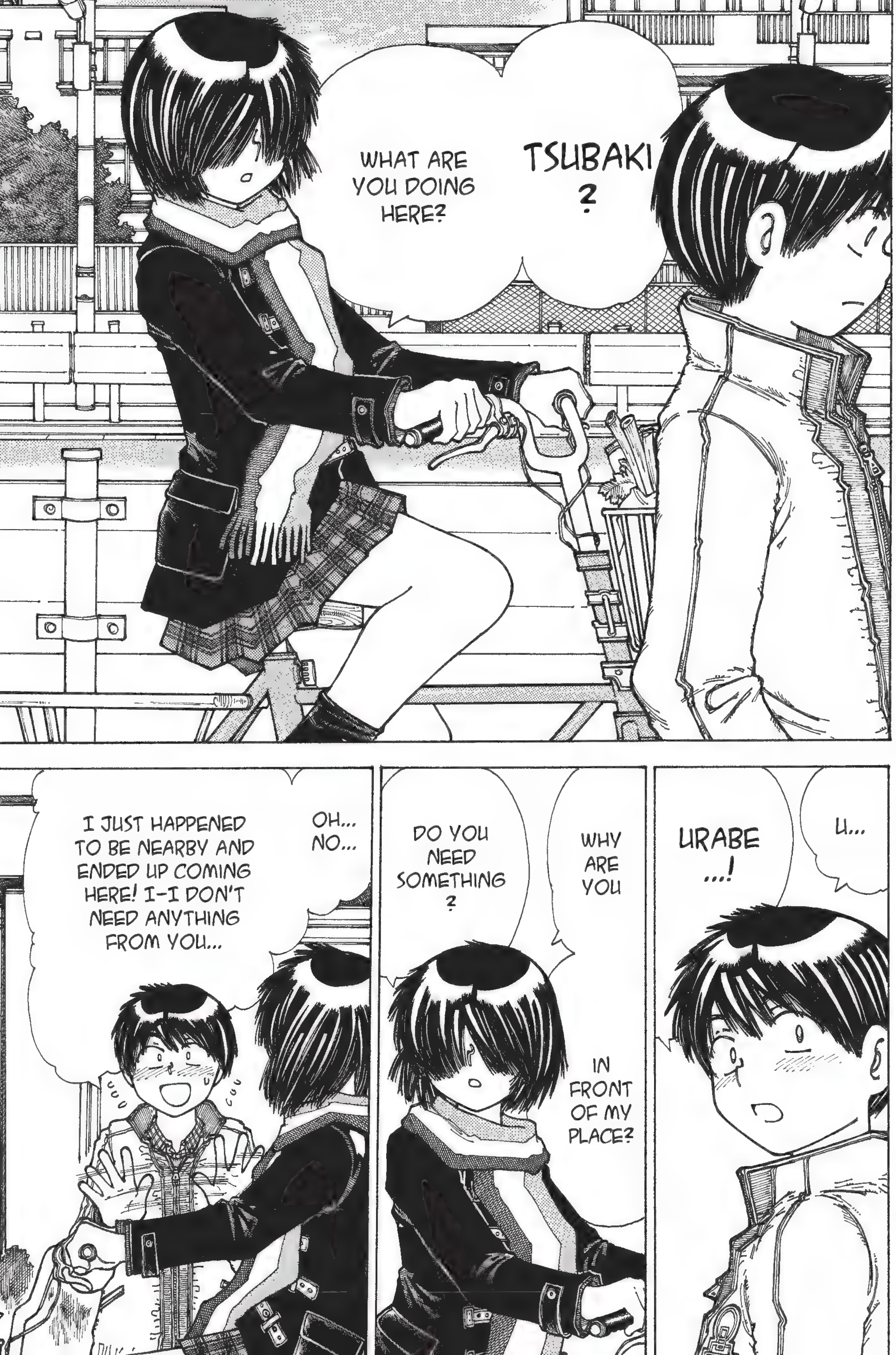

I HAD A DREAM THAT I TOUCHED URABE'S BOOBS.
EXPO'70
2001 SPACE ODDESSEY
SOMEHOW...
I CAN STILL FEEL THE SENSATION OF URABE'S BOOBS FROM MY DREAM,
HERE ON MY RIGHT HAND...

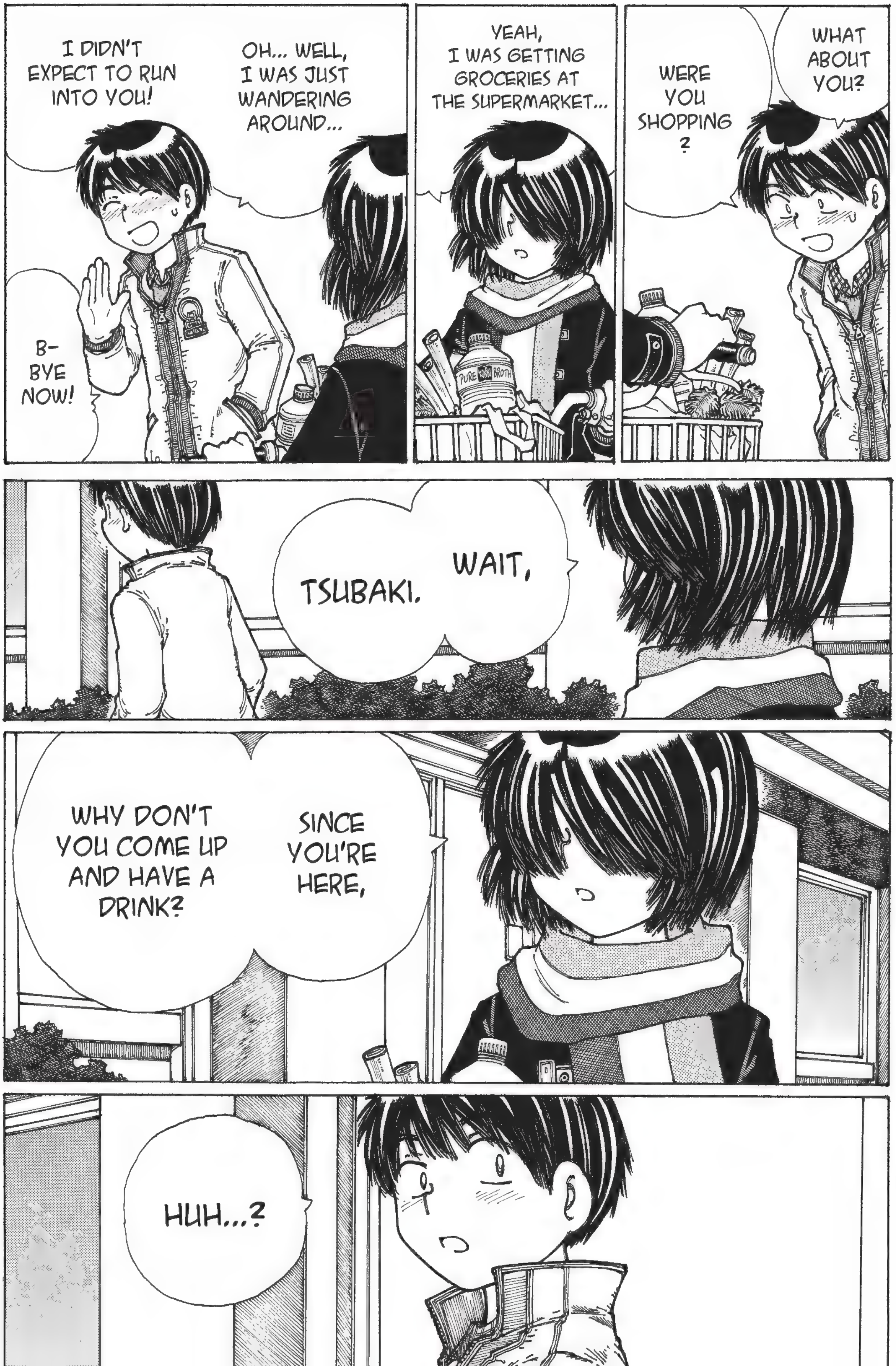

SOFT, BUT FIRM...
AND TOUCHING THEM SENT A SHIVER UP MY SPINE...
I WONDER IF THAT'S HOW
A GIRL'S BOOBS FEEL IN REAL LIFE...?
N-NO GOOD!
I SHOULDN'T BE HIDING IN MY ROOM WORRYING OVER SOME FANTASY ON A SUNDAY MORNING...
ガバッ
JUMP
I'LL GO TO THE BOOKSTORE TO TRY AND SNAP OUT OF IT...
SIS,
I'M HEADING OUT FOR A BIT.
HUH?
WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
de Saint en de Zmen

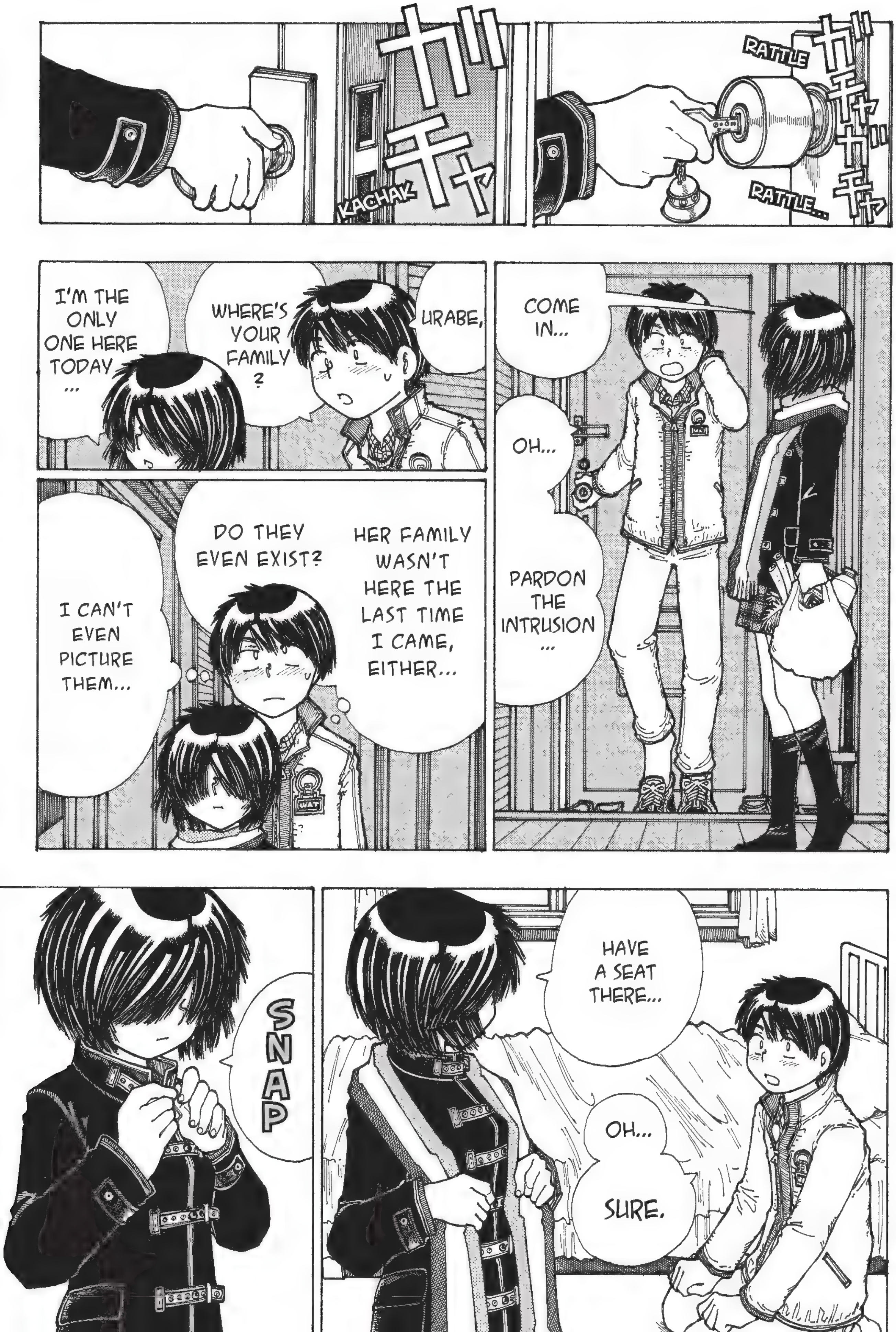

THE LOCAL BOOKSTORE.
JUST BE BACK BY EVENING.
OK...
DETECTIVES
BOOK CENTE
BOOKS
CD
DVI
LIGHT NOVEL FAIR
BEST SELLER
MOVIE
MONTHLY AFTERNOON
MAGAZINES
AF
BEAM!
ON SALE EVERY MONTH ON THE 25TH!
ウィーン
WREEN

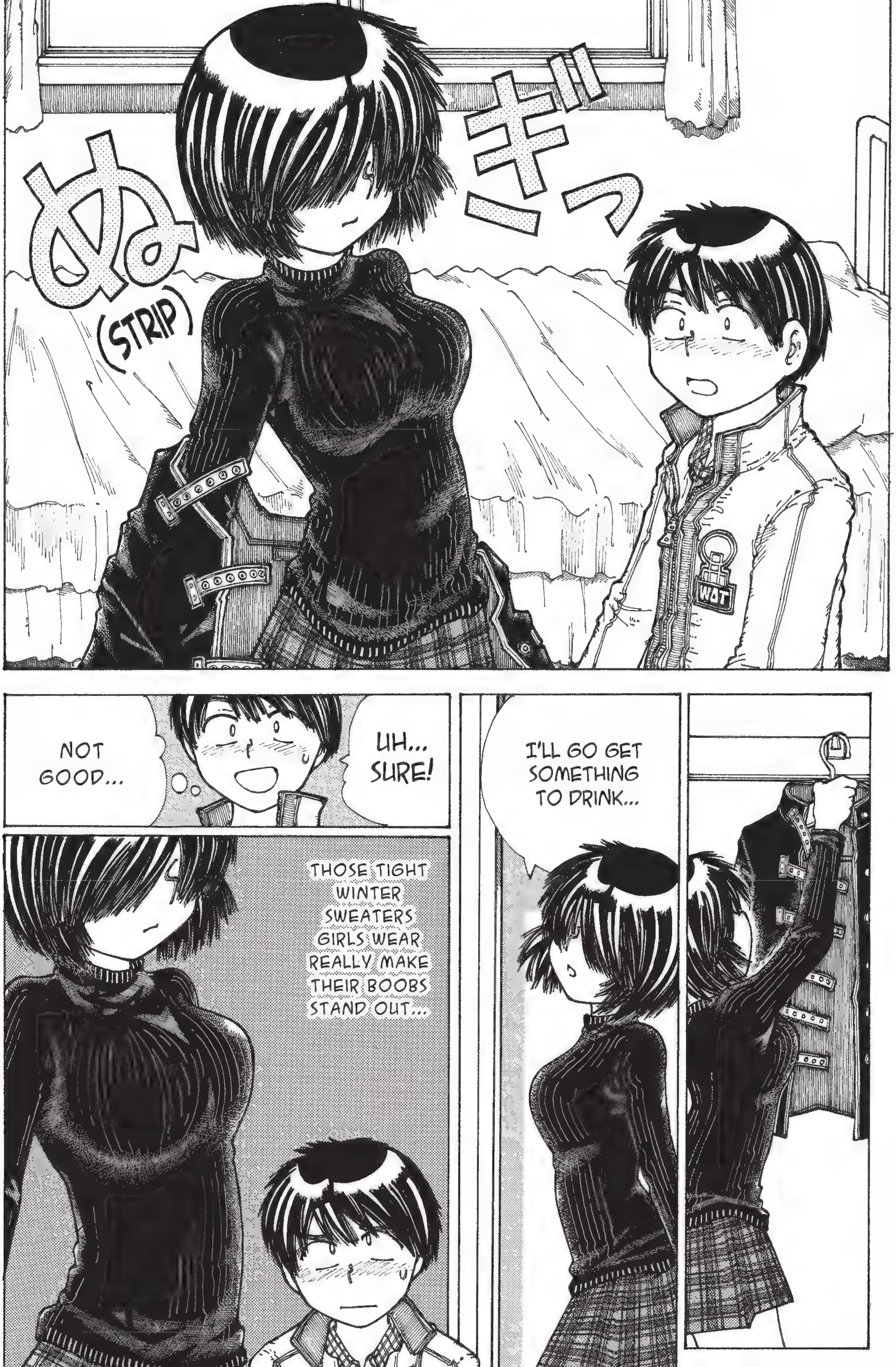

DVD
WHOA... IT FEELS LIKE I'VE BEEN STANDING HERE READING FOR AGES,
23 DVD SALE
BUT IT HASN'T EVEN BEEN 30 MINUTES ...
WHERE SHOULD I GO NOW?
23 DVD SALE!!
DAI
JUST
IF I WALK STRAIGHT DOWN THIS ROAD FOR ABOUT 20 MINUTES, I'LL BE AT URABE'S BUILDING...
...

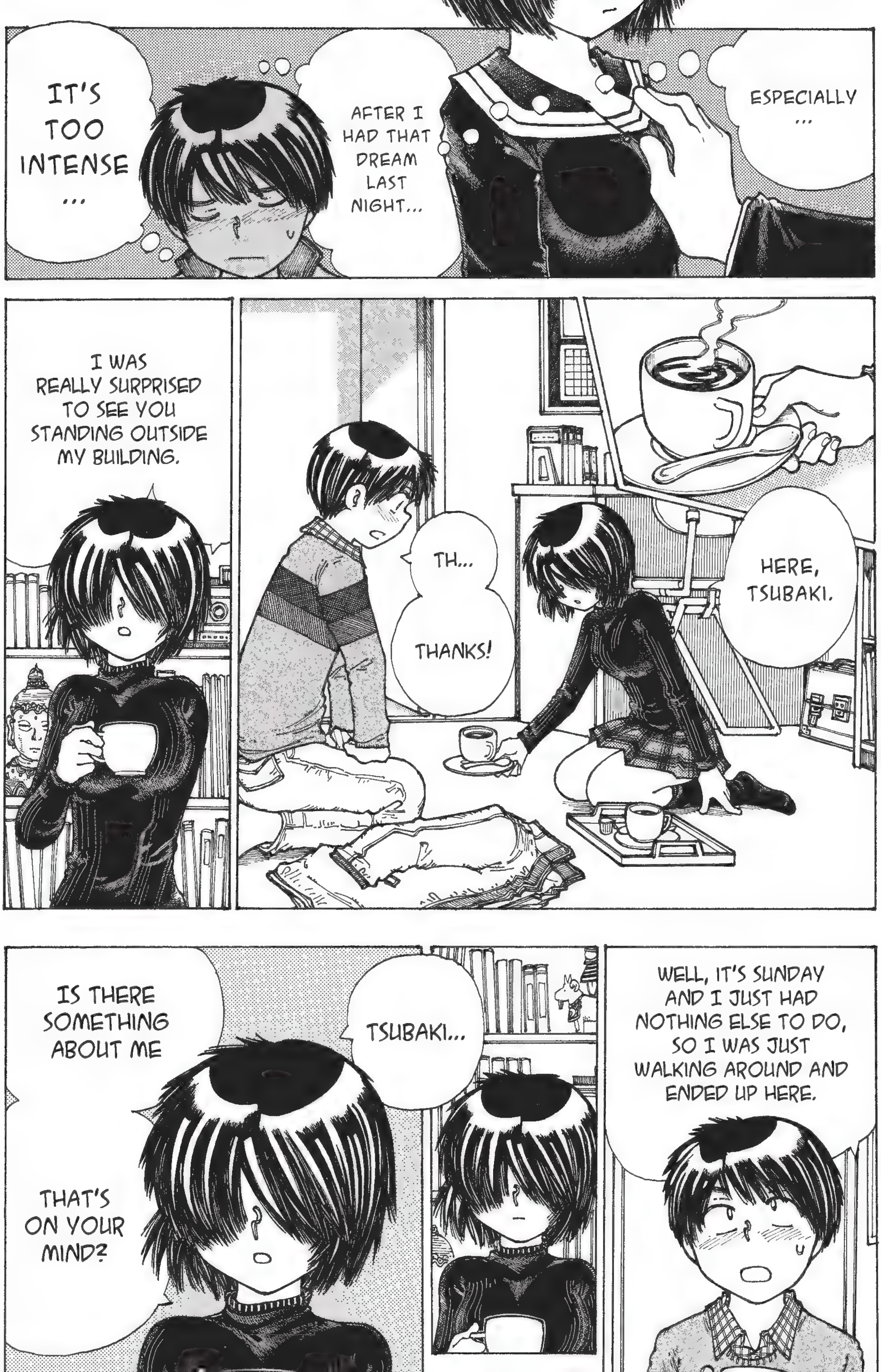

GREEN VILLAGE KAZAMIDAI
...
I ENDED UP COMING TO HER BUILDING...
SHE MUST BE UP THERE,
IN HER 10TH FLOOR CORNER ROOM...
STILL, EVEN IF I'M HER BOYFRIEND, WANDERING AROUND URABE'S PLACE LIKE THIS
MAKES ME SEEM LIKE A STALKER...
N-NOT GOOD!
I'LL GO HOME!
SHAA
SKREE

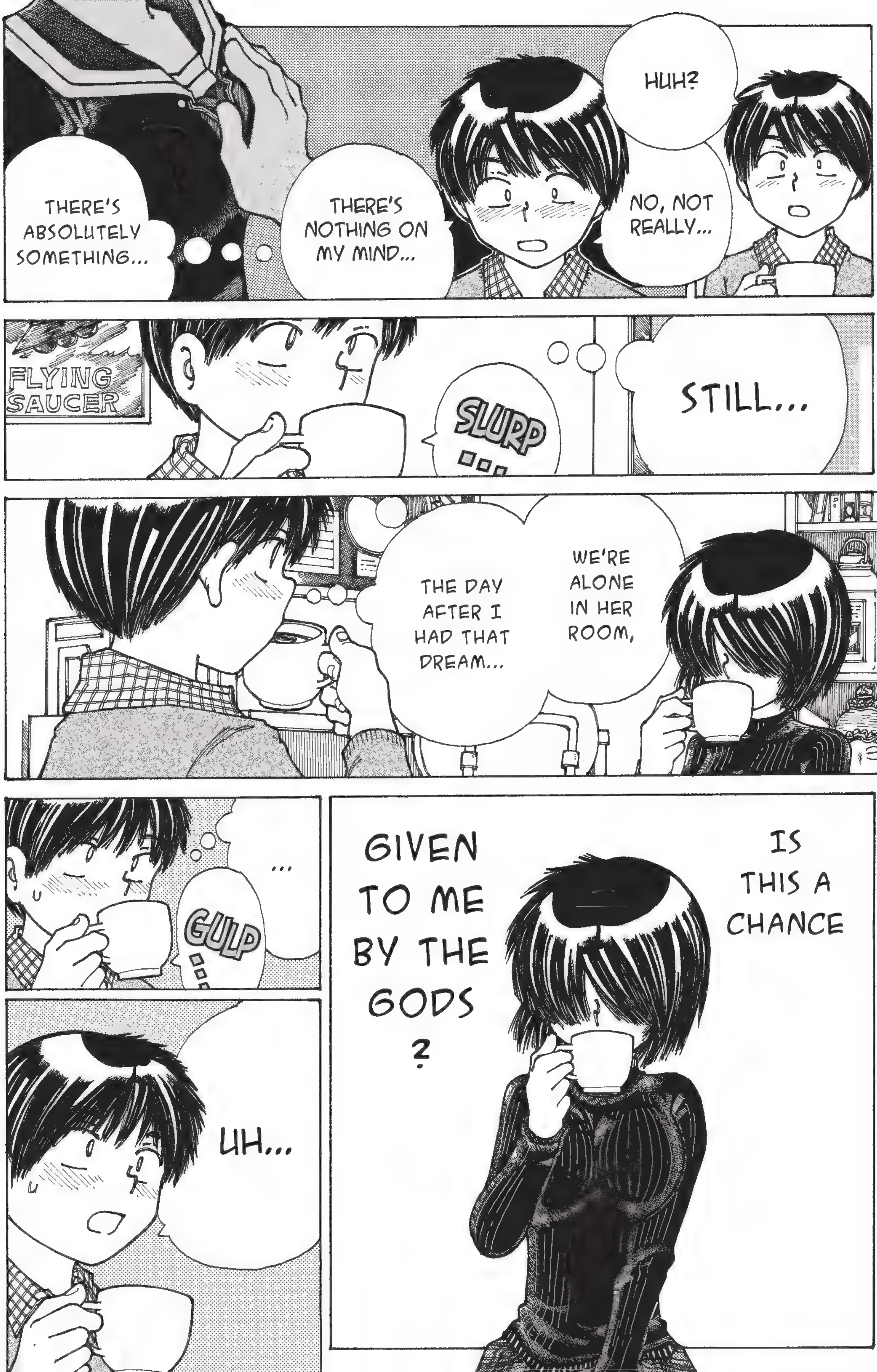

TSUBAKI?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
U...
URABE ...!
WHY ARE YOU IN FRONT OF MY PLACE?
DO YOU NEED SOMETHING?
OH... NO...
I JUST HAPPENED TO BE NEARBY AND ENDED UP COMING HERE! I-I DON'T NEED ANYTHING FROM YOU...

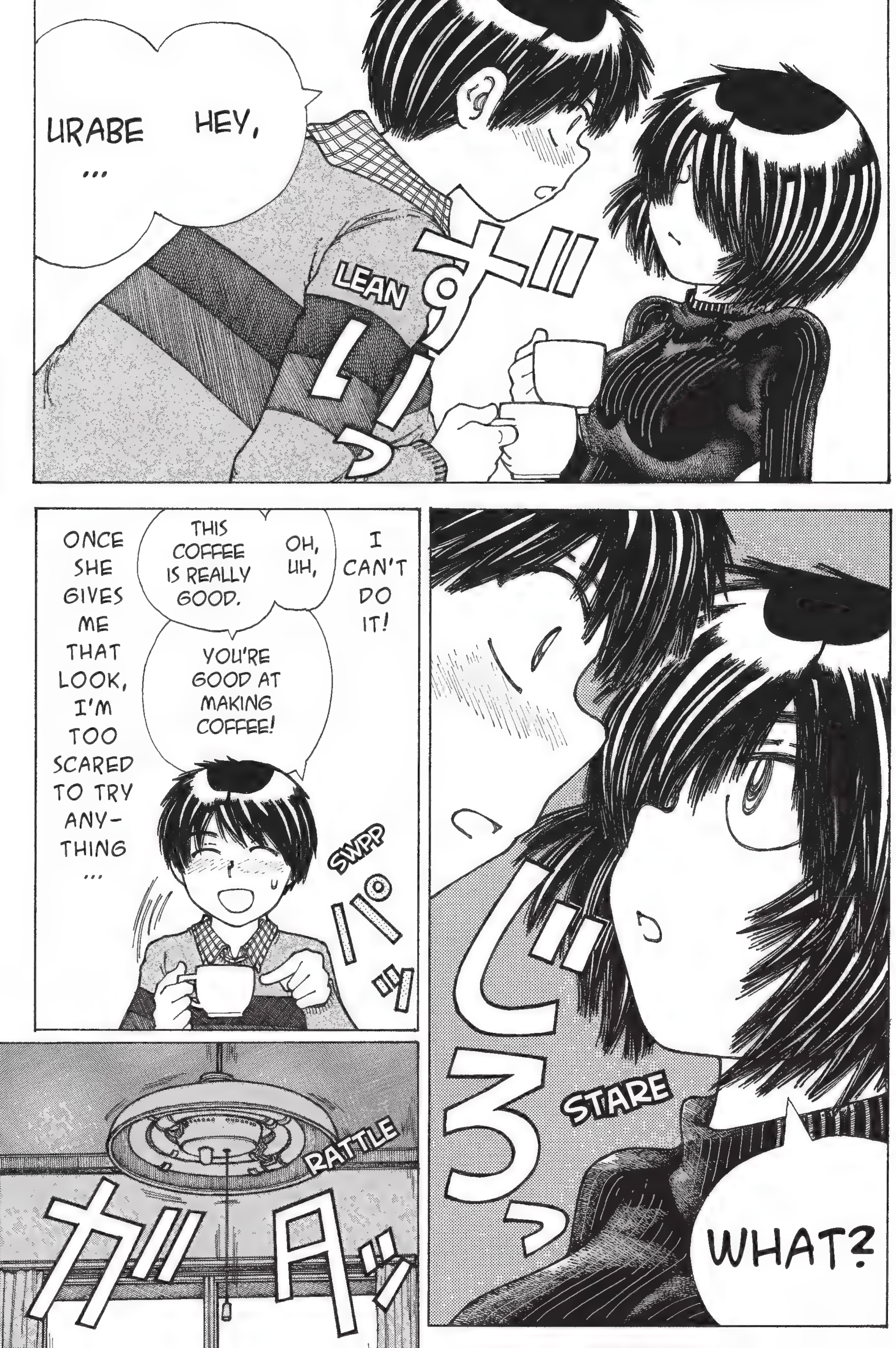

WHAT ABOUT YOU?
WERE YOU SHOPPING?
YEAH, I WAS GETTING GROCERIES AT THE SUPERMARKET...
PURE BROTH
OH... WELL, I WAS JUST WANDERING AROUND...
I DIDN'T EXPECT TO RUN INTO YOU!
B-BYE NOW!
WAIT, TSUBAKI.
SINCE YOU'RE HERE, WHY DON'T YOU COME UP AND HAVE A DRINK?
HUH...?

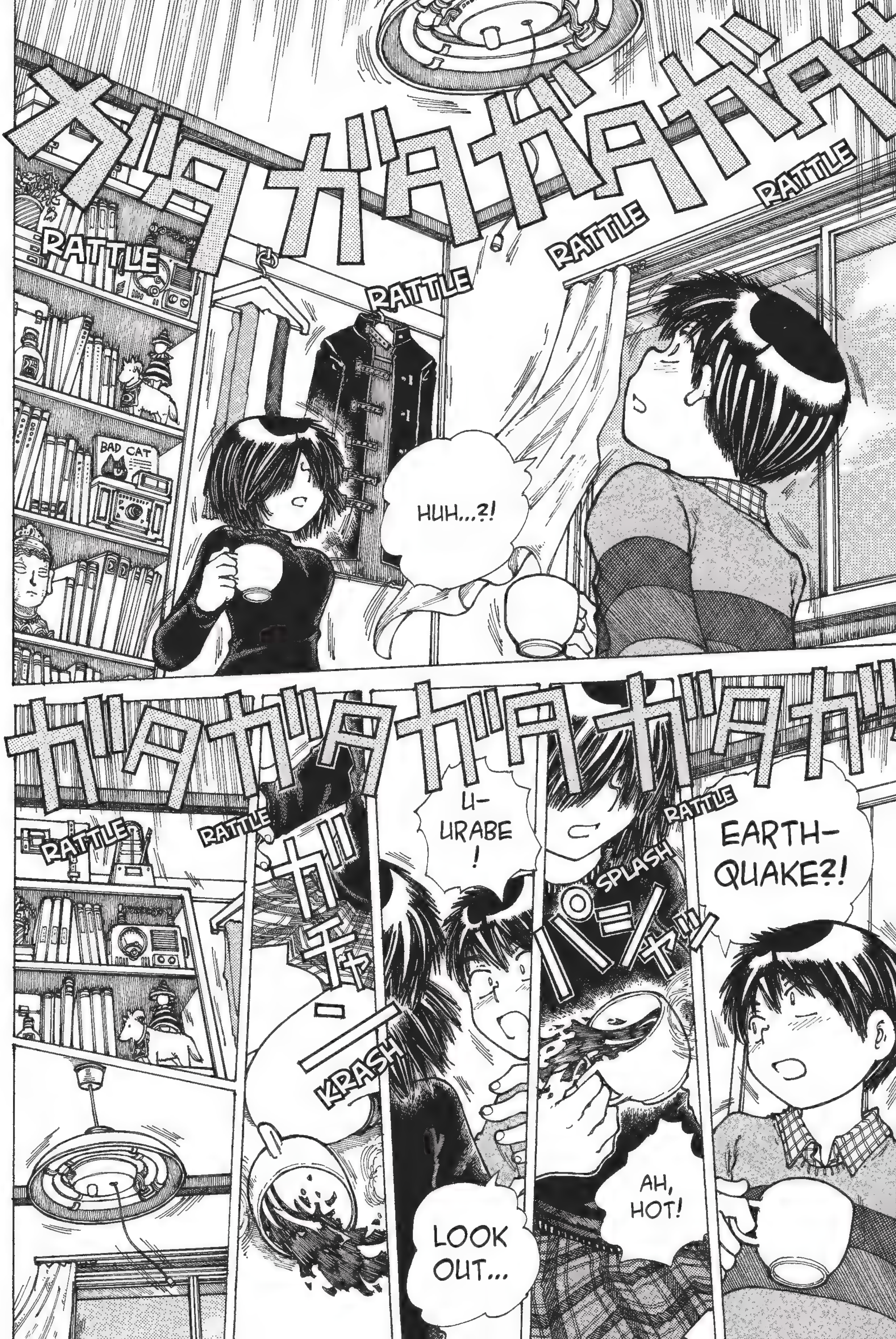

RATTLE
ガチャガチャ
RATTLE...
ガチャ
KACHAK
COME IN...
OH...
PARDON THE INTRUSION...
URABE,
WHERE'S YOUR FAMILY?
I'M THE ONLY ONE HERE TODAY...
HER FAMILY WASN'T HERE THE LAST TIME I CAME, EITHER...
DO THEY EVEN EXIST?
I CAN'T EVEN PICTURE THEM...
HAVE A SEAT THERE...
OH...
SURE.
SNAP

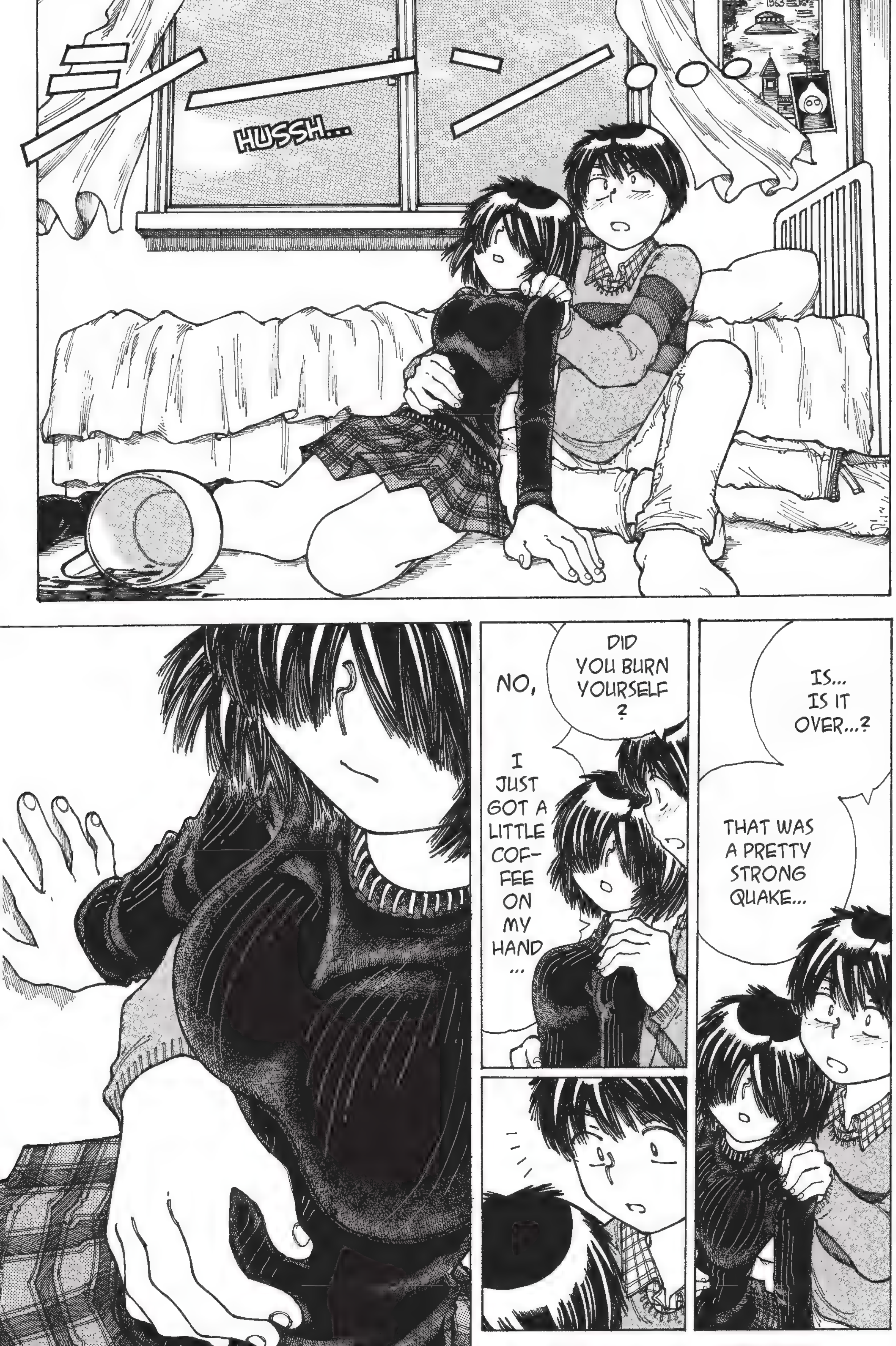

ぬぎっ
(STRIP)
WAT
I'LL GO GET SOMETHING TO DRINK...
UH... SURE!
NOT GOOD...
THOSE TIGHT WINTER SWEATERS GIRLS WEAR REALLY MAKE THEIR BOOBS STAND OUT...

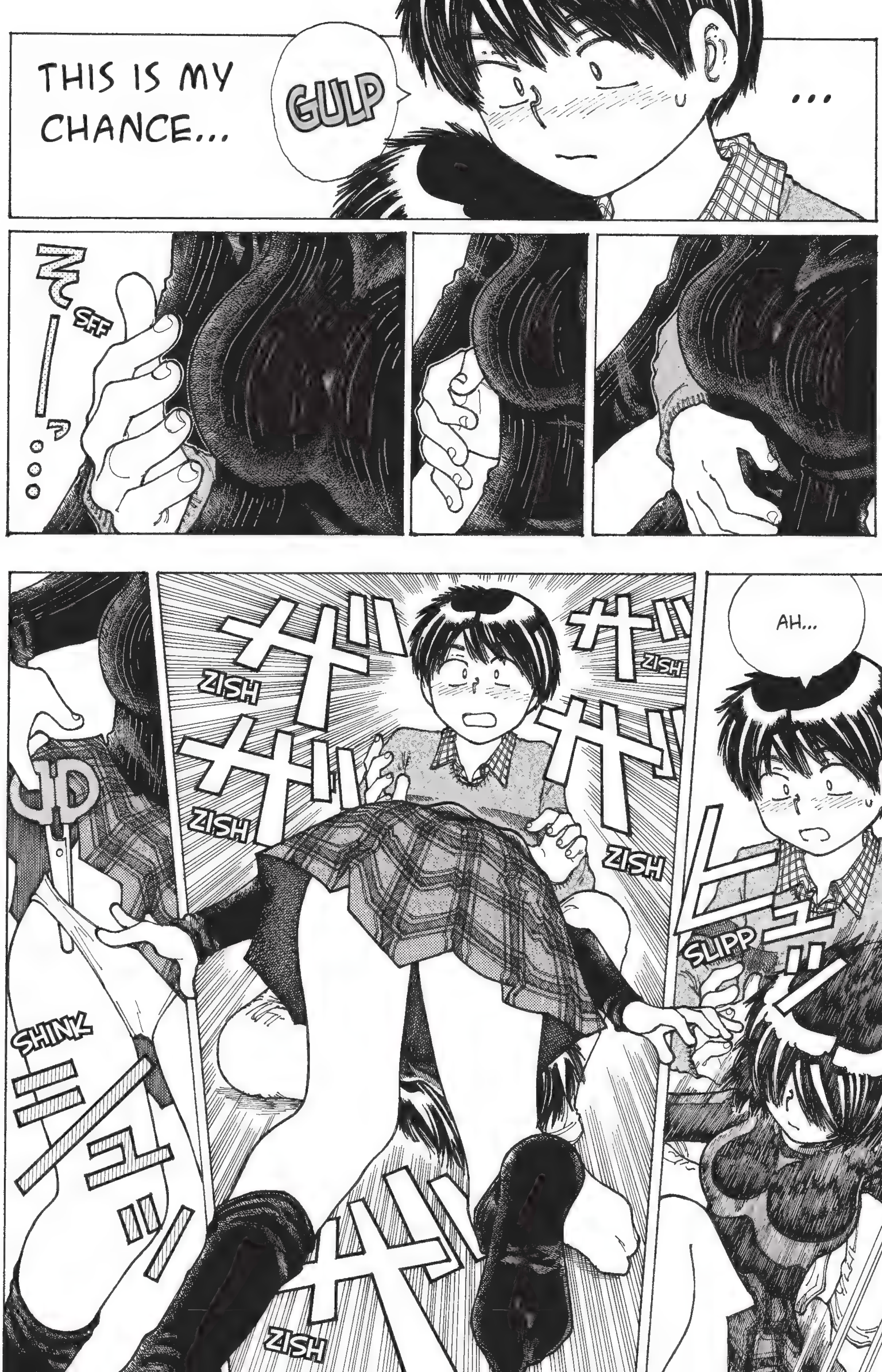

ESPECIALLY ...
AFTER I HAD THAT DREAM LAST NIGHT...
IT'S TOO INTENSE ...
HERE, TSUBAKI.
TH... THANKS!
I WAS REALLY SURPRISED TO SEE YOU STANDING OUTSIDE MY BUILDING.
WELL, IT'S SUNDAY AND I JUST HAD NOTHING ELSE TO DO, SO I WAS JUST WALKING AROUND AND ENDED UP HERE.
TSUBAKI...
IS THERE SOMETHING ABOUT ME THAT'S ON YOUR MIND?

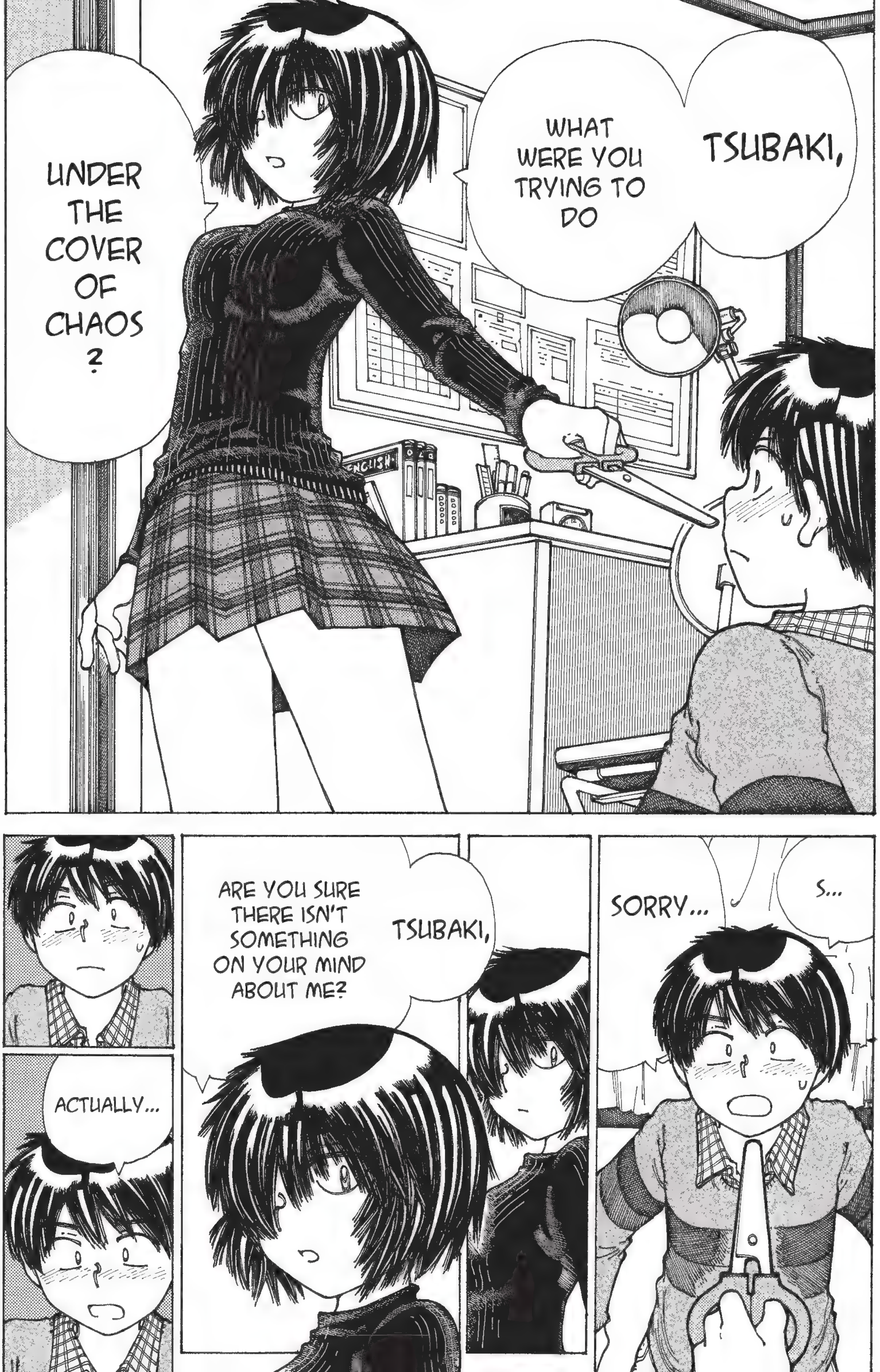

HUH?
NO, NOT REALLY...
THERE'S NOTHING ON MY MIND...
THERE'S ABSOLUTELY SOMETHING...
FLYING SAUCER
STILL...
SLURP
WE'RE ALONE IN HER ROOM,
THE DAY AFTER I HAD THAT DREAM...
...
GULP
IS THIS A CHANCE
GIVEN TO ME BY THE GODS ?
UH...

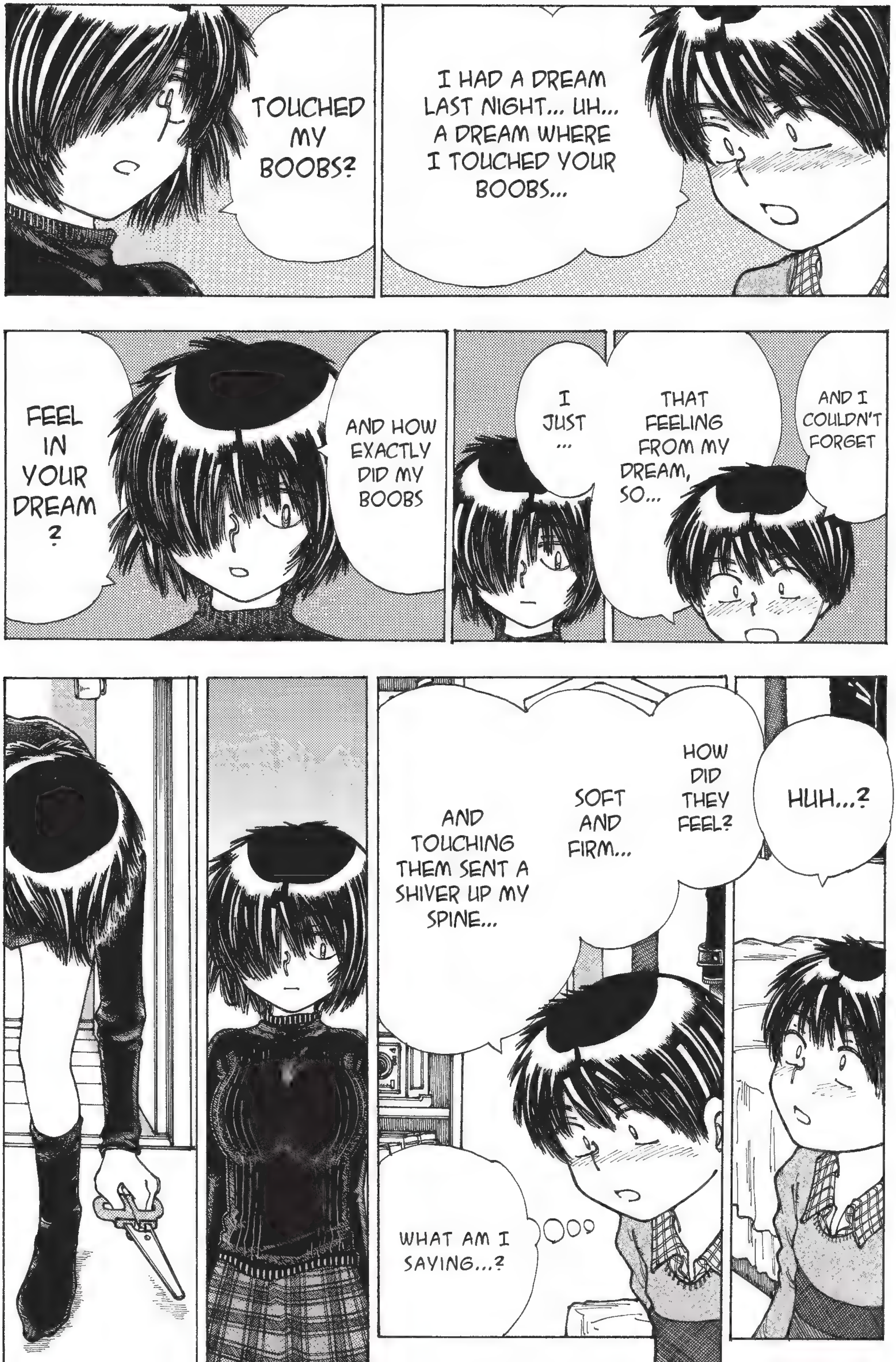

HEY, URABE ...
LEAN
ずいっ
じろっ
STARE
WHAT?
I CAN'T DO IT!
OH, UH, THIS COFFEE IS REALLY GOOD.
YOU'RE GOOD AT MAKING COFFEE!
ONCE SHE GIVES ME THAT LOOK, I'M TOO SCARED TO TRY ANYTHING ...
SWPP
パッ
RATTLE
ガタッ

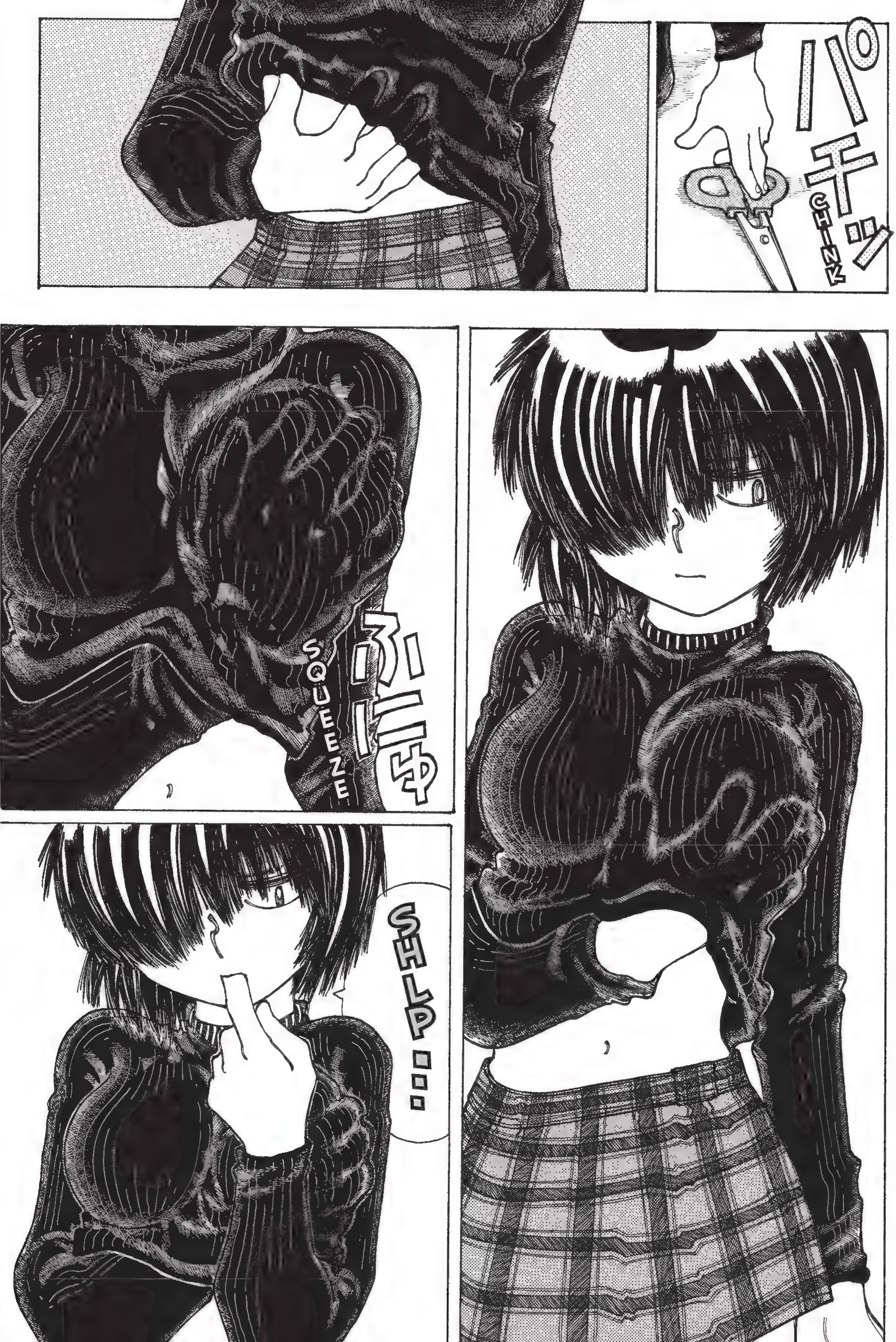

ガタガタガタガタ
RATTLE
RATTLE
RATTLE
RATTLE
RATTLE
HUH...?!
ガタガタガタガタ
RATTLE
RATTLE
RATTLE
EARTH-QUAKE?!
パシャッ
SPLASH
U-URABE!
AH, HOT!
ガチャー
KRASH
LOOK OUT...

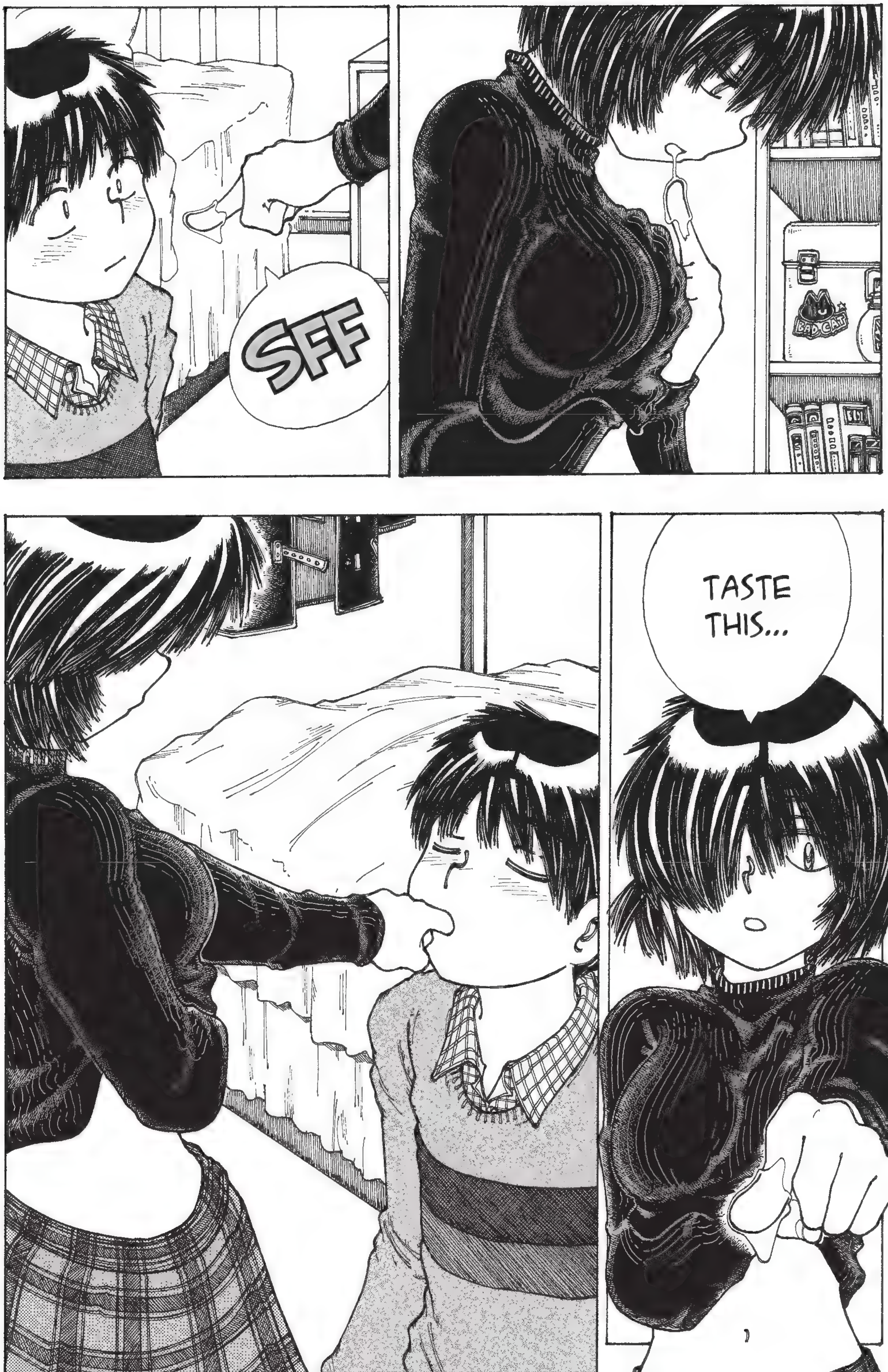

HUSSH...
IS... IS IT OVER...?
THAT WAS A PRETTY STRONG QUAKE...
DID YOU BURN YOURSELF?
NO, I JUST GOT A LITTLE COFFEE ON MY HAND...

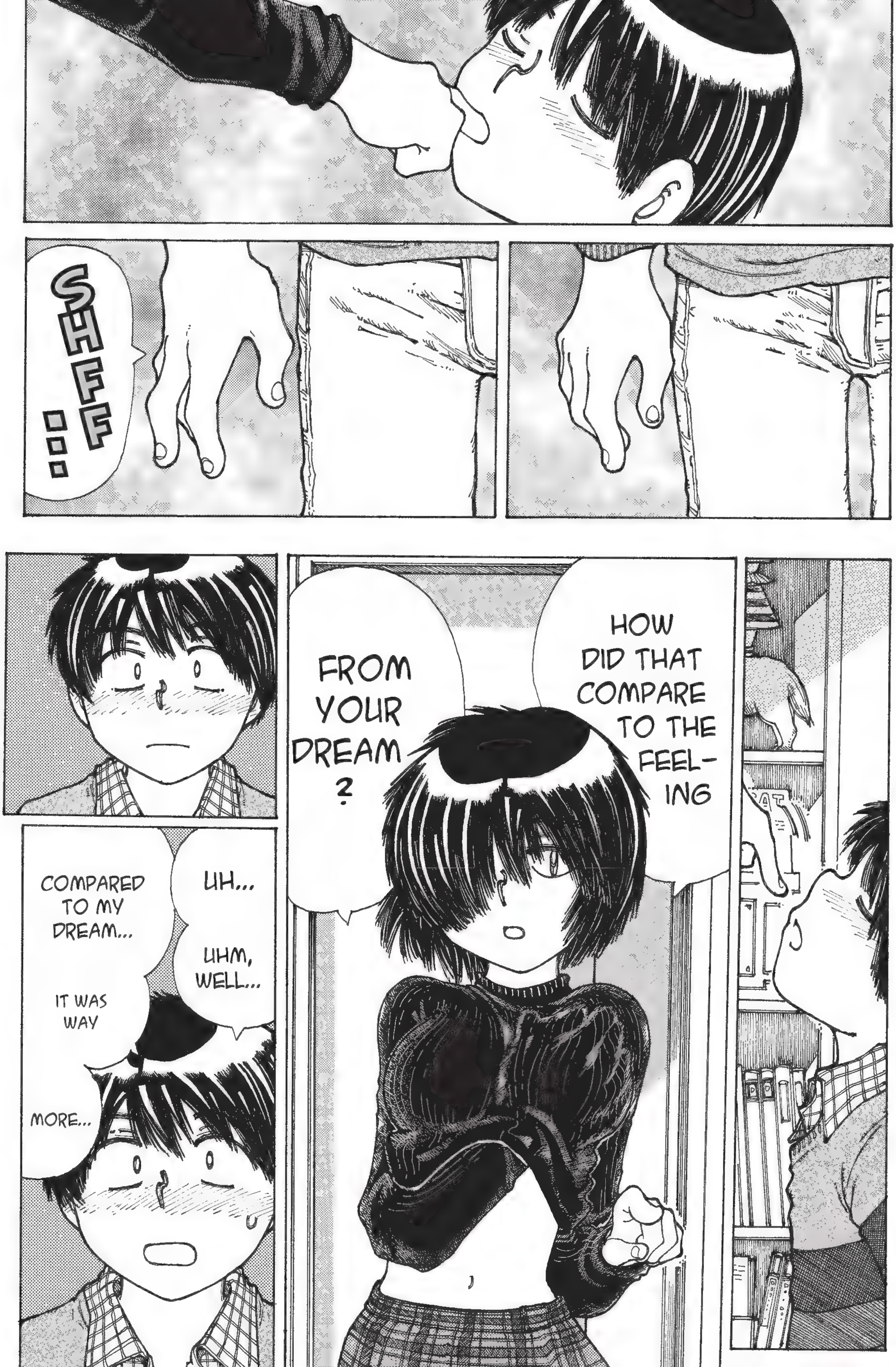

...
GULP
THIS IS MY CHANCE...
SFF
AH...
SLIPP
ZISH
ZISH
ZISH
ZISH
ZISH
SHINK

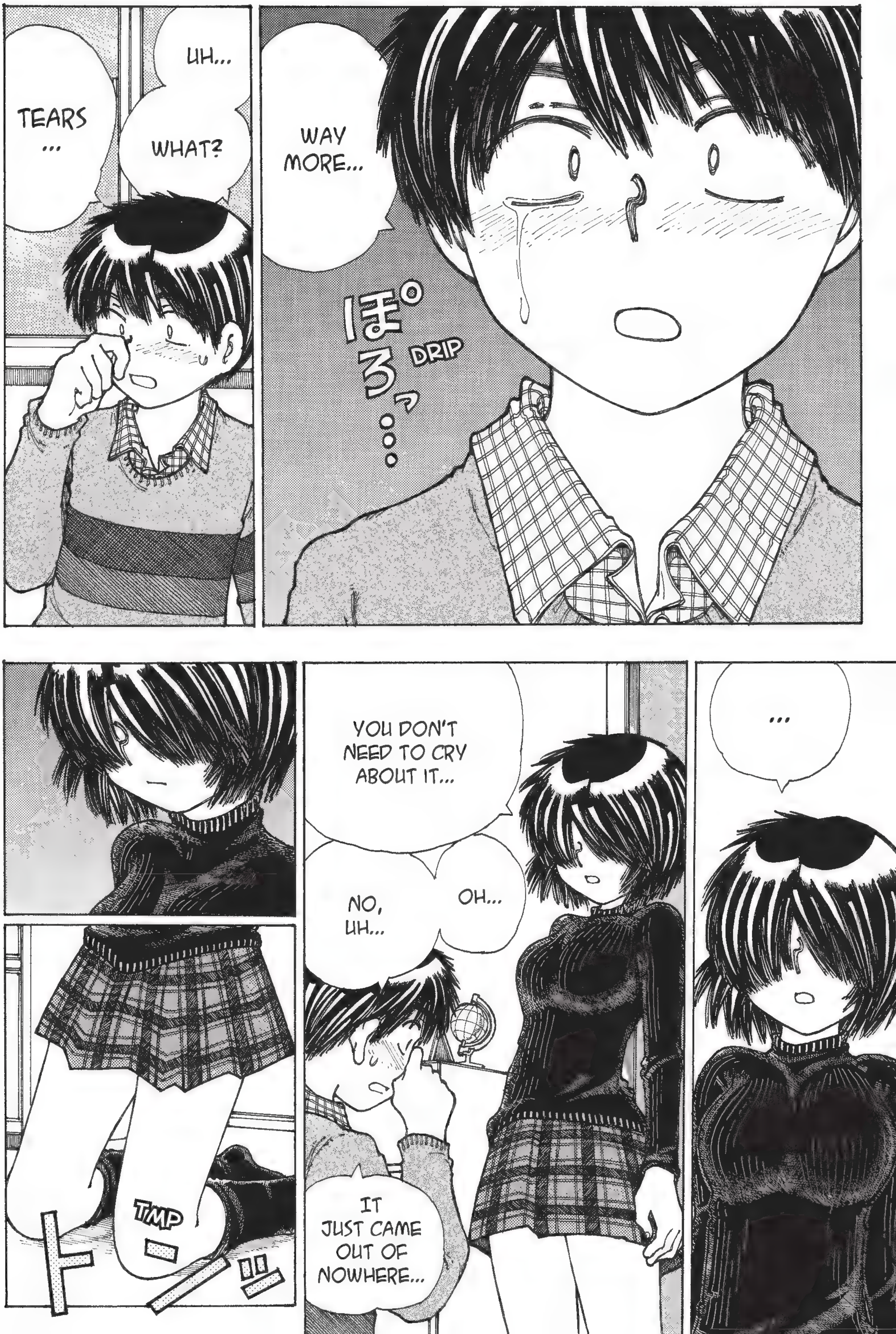

TSUBAKI,
WHAT WERE YOU TRYING TO DO
UNDER THE COVER OF CHAOS?
ENGLISH
S...
SORRY...
TSUBAKI,
ARE YOU SURE THERE ISN'T SOMETHING ON YOUR MIND ABOUT ME?
ACTUALLY...

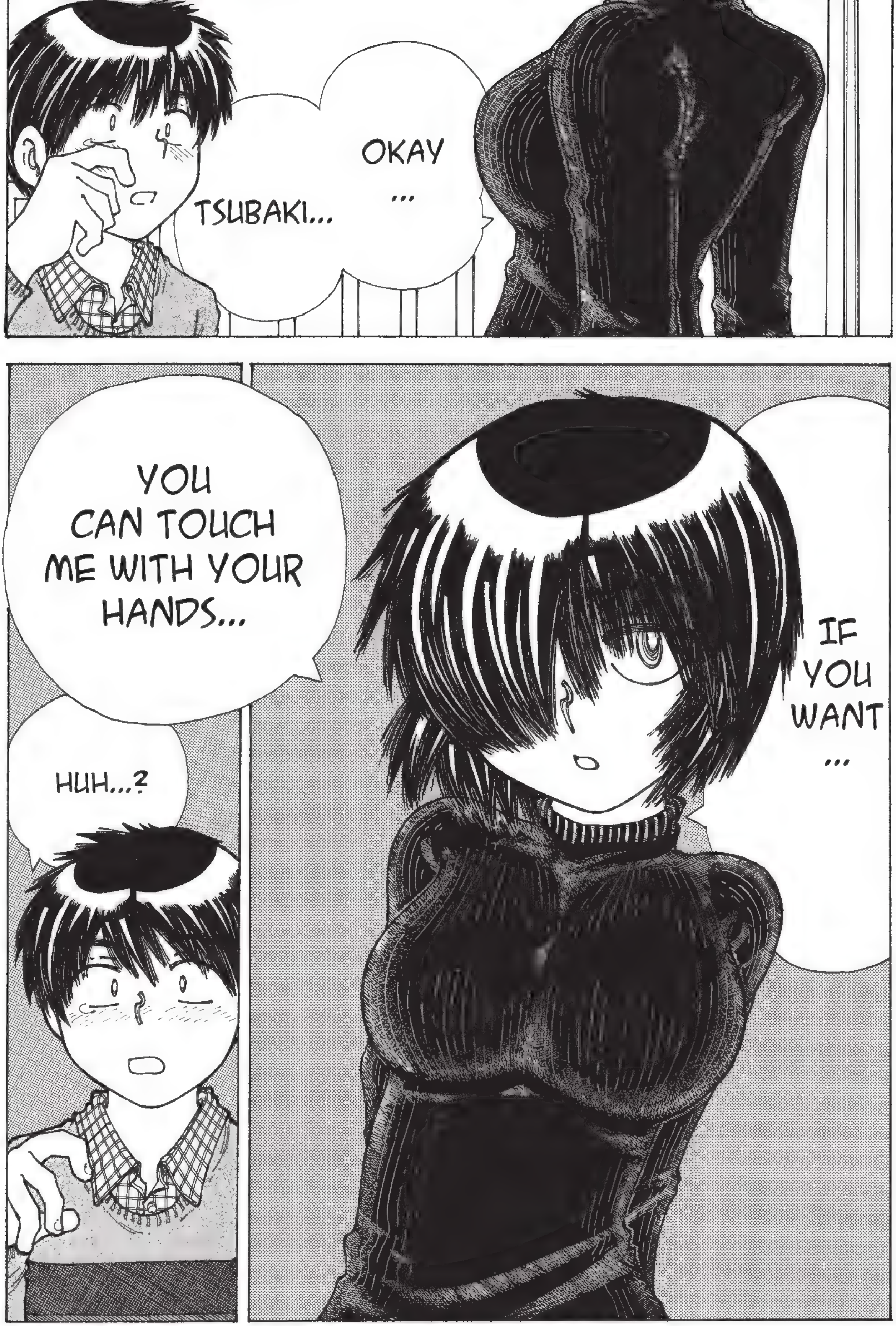

I HAD A DREAM LAST NIGHT... UH... A DREAM WHERE I TOUCHED YOUR BOOBS...
TOUCHED MY BOOBS?
AND I COULDN'T FORGET
THAT FEELING FROM MY DREAM, SO...
I JUST ...
AND HOW EXACTLY DID MY BOOBS
FEEL IN YOUR DREAM?
HUH...?
HOW DID THEY FEEL?
SOFT AND FIRM...
AND TOUCHING THEM SENT A SHIVER UP MY SPINE...
WHAT AM I SAYING...?


パチッ
CHINK
ふにゅ
SQUEEZE
SHLP...


SFF
BAD CAT
TASTE THIS...


SHFF...
HOW DID THAT COMPARE TO THE FEELING
FROM YOUR DREAM?
UH...
UHM, WELL...
COMPARED TO MY DREAM...
IT WAS WAY
MORE...


WAY MORE...
ぽろっ...
DRIP
UH...
WHAT?
TEARS ...
...
YOU DON'T NEED TO CRY ABOUT IT...
OH...
NO, UH...
IT JUST CAME OUT OF NOWHERE...
TMP
トーン


TSUBAKI... OKAY ...
IF YOU WANT ...
YOU CAN TOUCH ME WITH YOUR HANDS...
HUH...?

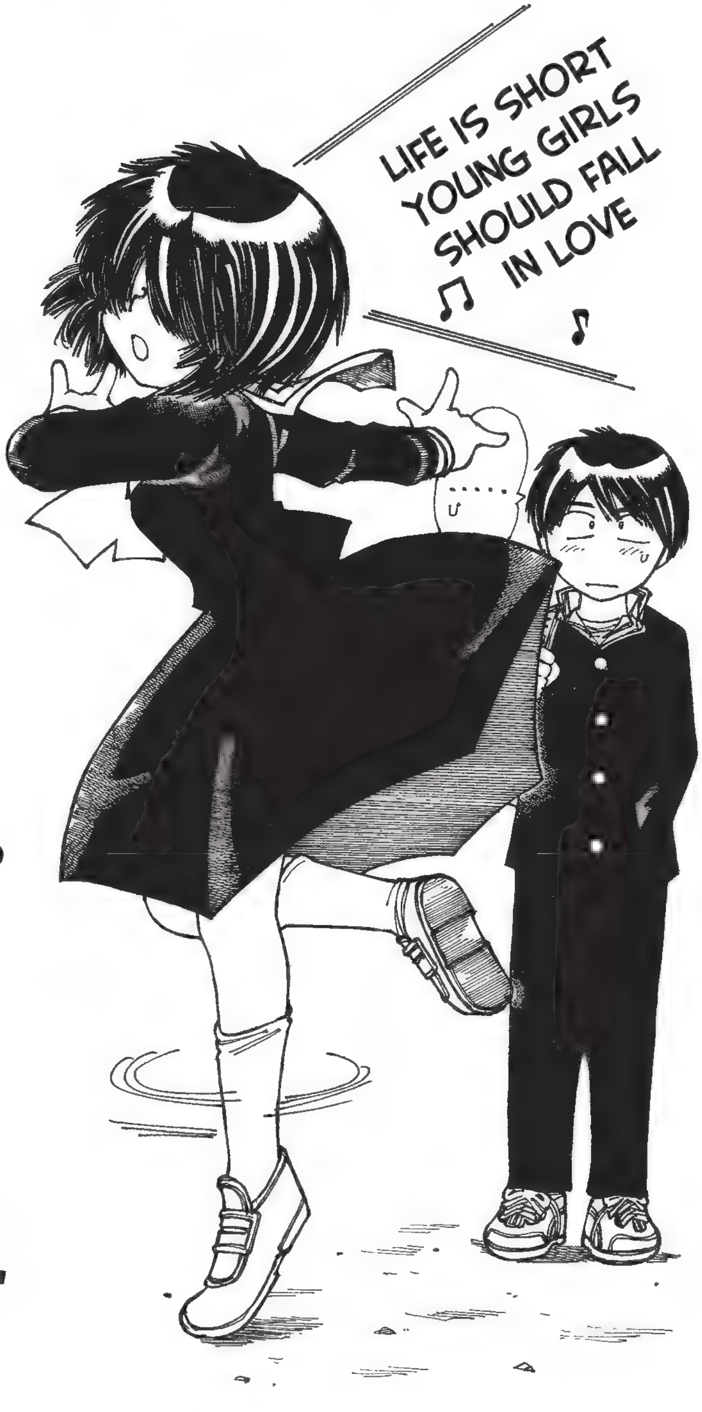
END OF CHAPTER 20

BECAUSE MIKOTO URABE IS A GIRL...

AFTER MANY DIFFICULTIES, VOLUME 2 IS FINALLY ON SALE! AND IT'S THANKS TO ALL OF YOU READERS!!

SO, "MYSTERIOUS GIRLFRIEND X" IS A ROMANCE COMIC ABOUT AN AVERAGE BOY, AKIRA TSUBAKI, AND A MYSTERIOUS GIRL, MIKOTO URABE. THERE'S SOMETHING THE AUTHOR OFTEN FANTASIZES ABOUT WHILE WRITING THIS COMIC. THAT IS: "IF 'X' WERE A COMIC SERIALIZED IN A GIRLS' MANGA MAGAZINE, ABOUT A MYSTERIOUS BOY AND AN AVERAGE GIRL WHO IS DRAWN TO HIM...

IN OTHER WORDS, IF TSUBAKI AND URABE'S GENDERS WERE REVERSED, WHAT KIND OF COMIC WOULD IT BE?"


LIFE IS SHORT YOUNG GIRLS SHOULD FALL IN LOVE ♫ ♪
......

IF I WERE TO DRAW THE CHARACTERS OF THIS FANTASY COMIC, THEY MIGHT LOOK LIKE THIS!

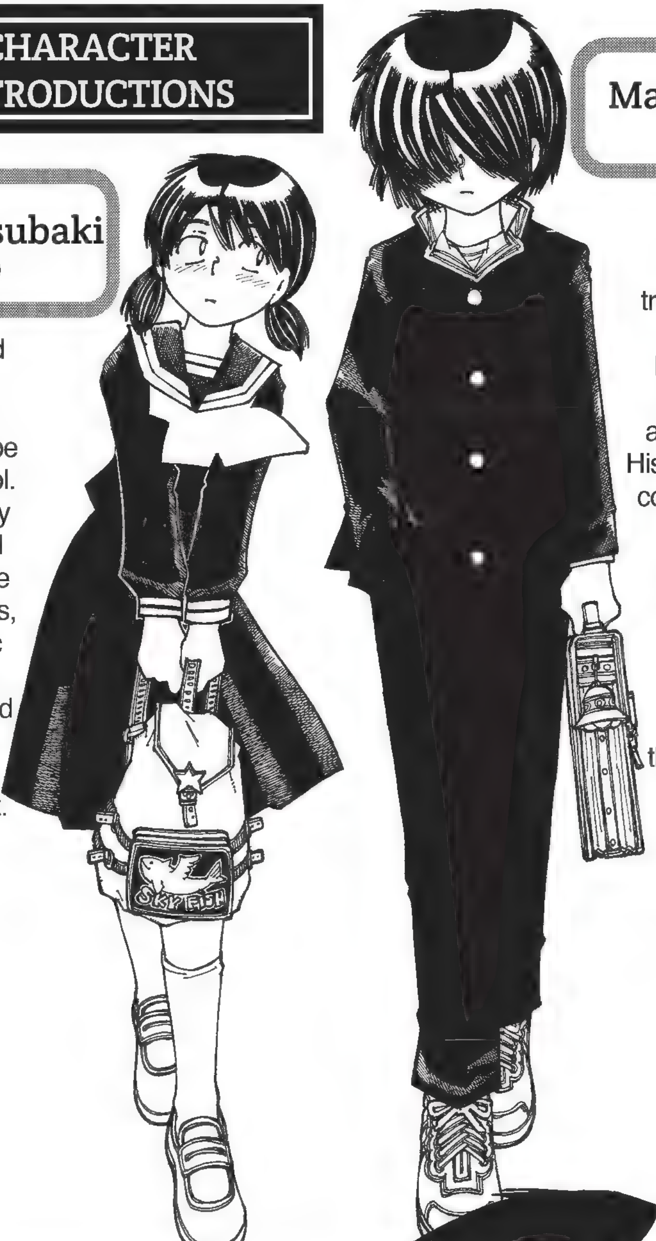
CHARACTER INTRODUCTIONS

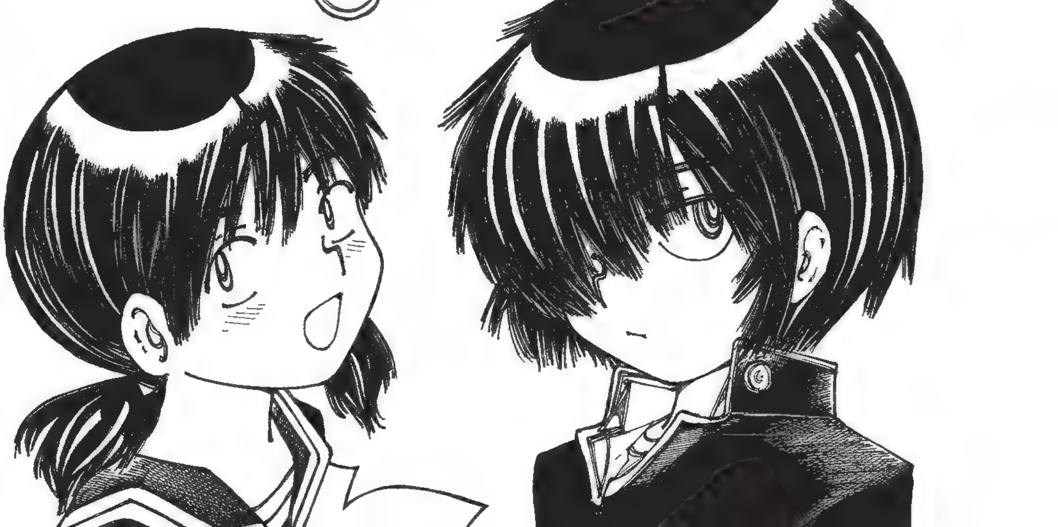
Akiko Tsubaki
(17)

A girl bound to the mysterious Makoto Urabe through drool. A completely ordinary girl with average looks, grades, and athletic ability. She doesn't stand up well to sexual harassment.

Makoto Urabe
(17)

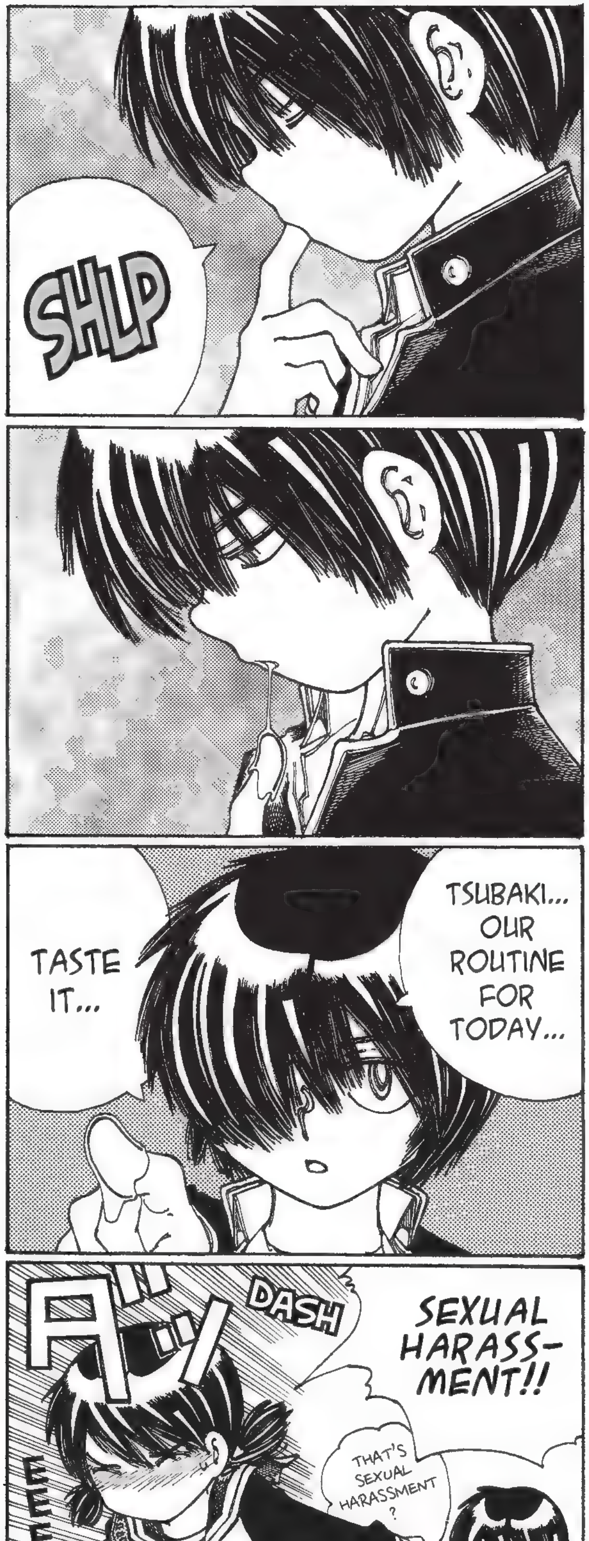
A mysterious boy who transferred into Kazamidai High School. Cool, quiet, and antisocial. His bangs usually cover half of his face, but underneath, he's rather attractive. He has a bond with Tsubaki through drool.





ON THAT NOTE, A BONUS COMIC EXCLUSIVE TO THIS VOLUME STARTS ON THE NEXT PAGE!

Their Bond


SHLP
TSUBAKI... OUR ROUTINE FOR TODAY...
TASTE IT...
SEXUAL HARASS-MENT!!
DASH
A‼
THAT'S SEXUAL HARASSMENT ?
EEEEEK!!

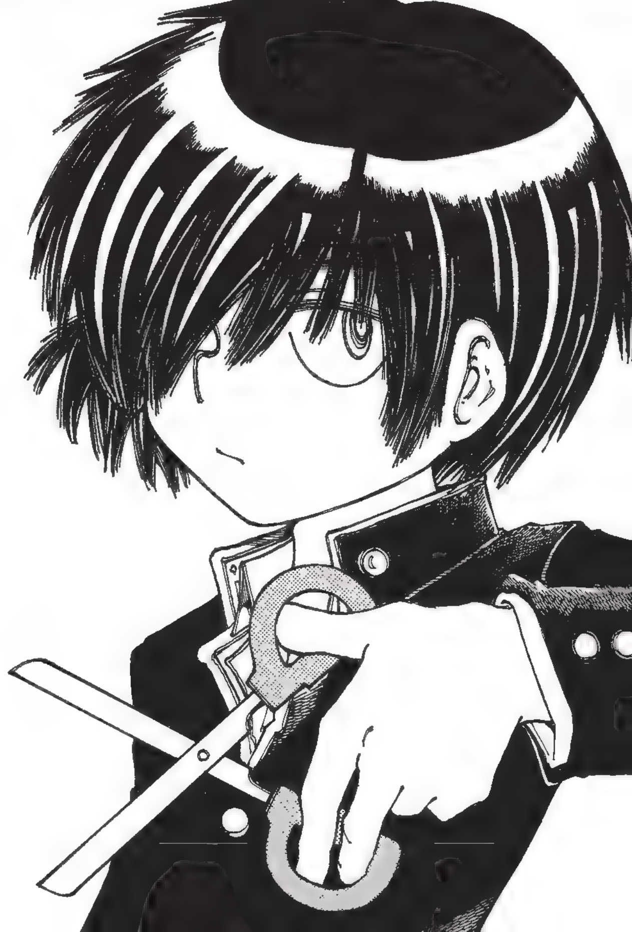
※THIS STORY IS A WORK OF FICTION. RESEMBLANCE TO ANY ACTUAL PERSONS, ORGANIZATIONS, ETC. IS PURELY COINCIDENTAL.

A FOUR-PANEL "UNIDENTIFIABLE ROMANCE" COMIC!!

Mysterious Boyfriend X

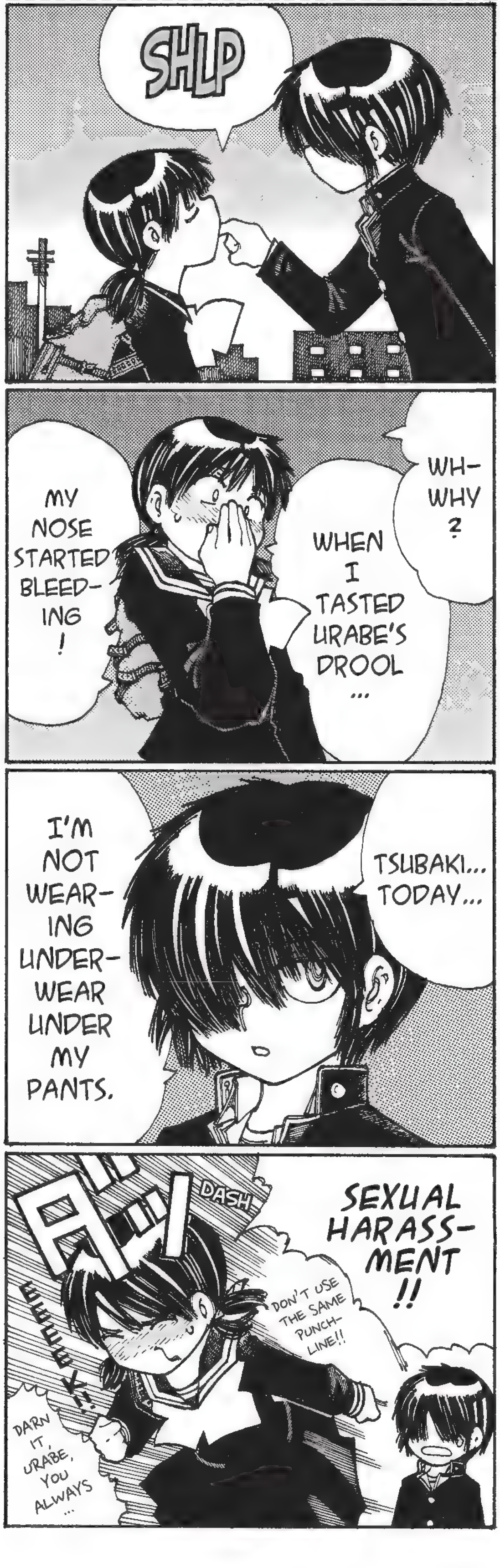
Riichi Ueshiba

AN ANTISOCIAL, MYSTERIOUS, AND GORGEOUS BOYFRIEND!!

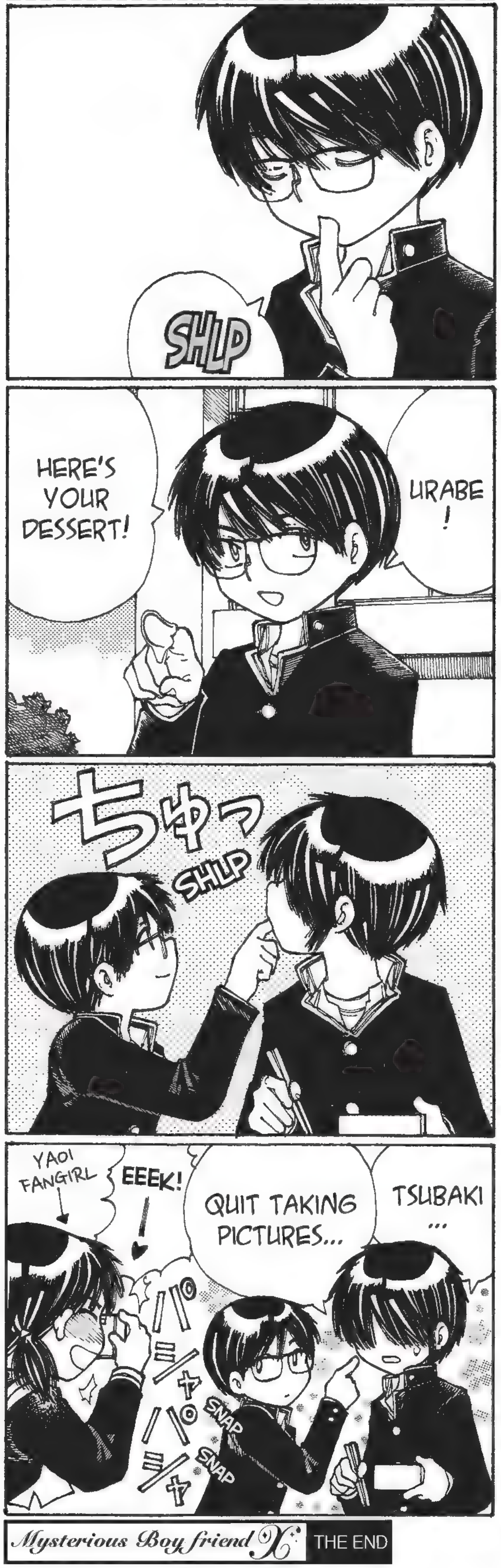


Mysterious Boyfriend X A HEART-POUNDING ♡ ROMANTIC COMEDY!!

Mysterious Windy Day "Boyfriend" Version

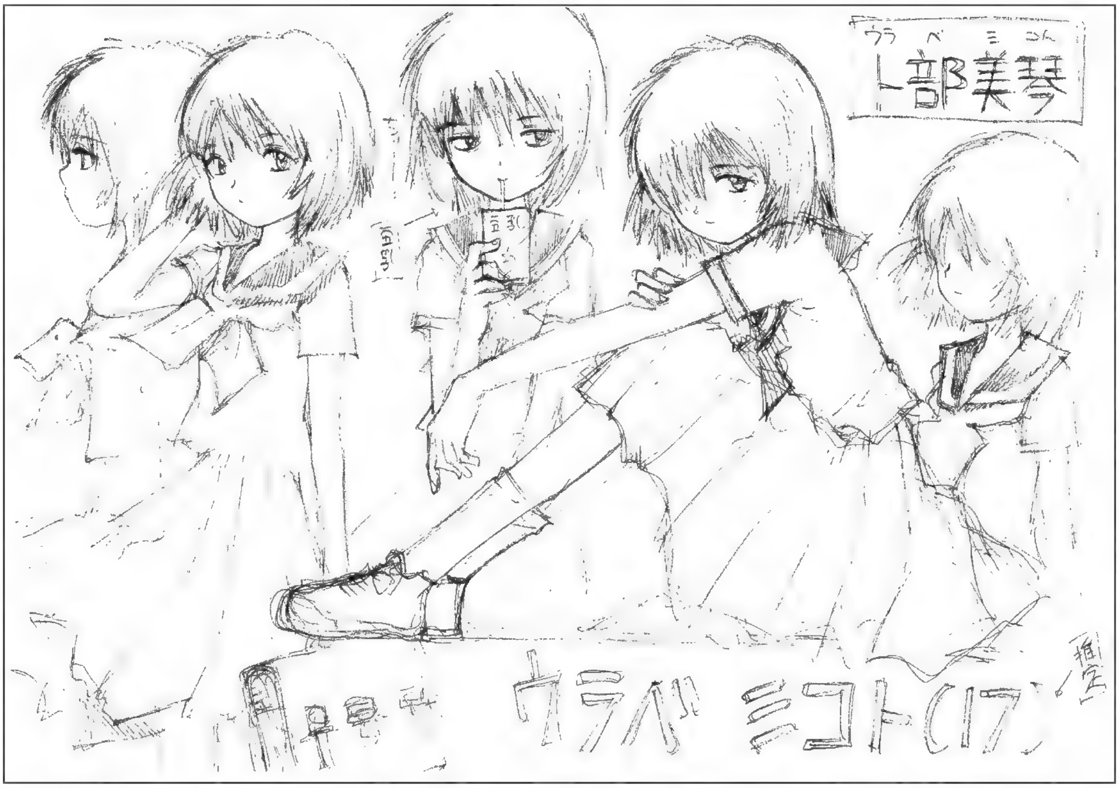

SHLP
WH-WHY?
WHEN I TASTED URABE'S DROOL...
MY NOSE STARTED BLEEDING!
TSUBAKI... TODAY...
I'M NOT WEARING UNDERWEAR UNDER MY PANTS.
SEXUAL HARASSMENT!!
DASH
DON'T USE THE SAME PUNCHLINE!!
DARN IT, URABE, YOU ALWAYS...
EEEEK!!

Oka's Also a Boy


SHLP
URABE!
HERE'S YOUR DESSERT!
ちゅっ
SHLP
TSUBAKI...
QUIT TAKING PICTURES...
EEEK!
YAOI FANGIRL
パシャ
パシャ
SNAP
SNAP

Mysterious Boyfriend X THE END

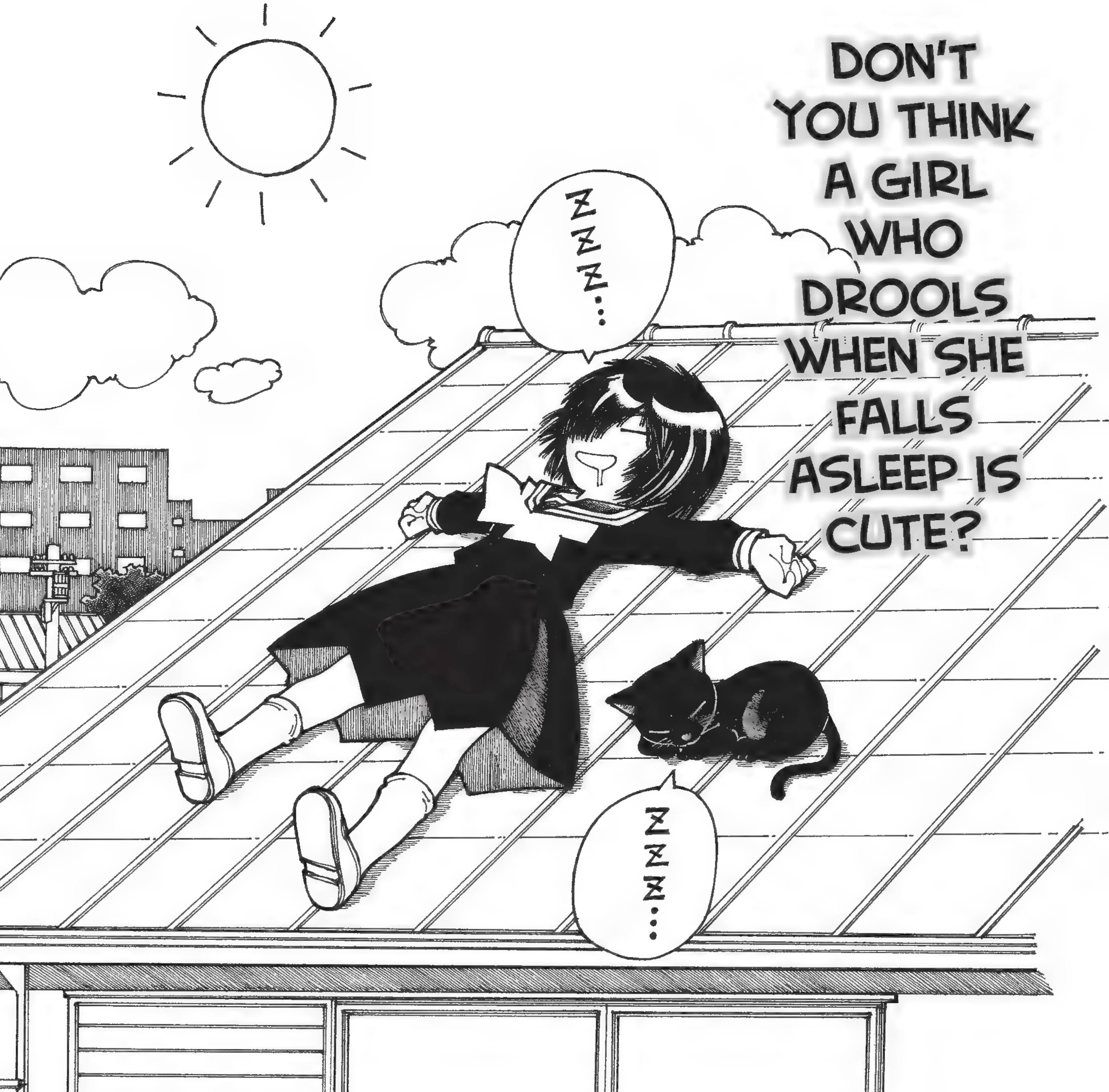
Her rival in love is a boy? What will happen next?


ウラ ベ ミ コト
卜部美琴
ウラベ ミコト(17)

The sketch above was actually drawn quite a while ago. Long before serialization of "Mysterious Girlfriend X" began. Even before the one-shot story published in Afternoon half a year before the serialized comic, "Mysterious Girlfriend X" (included in volume 1 as "Chapter 0"), was drawn. It was drawn after the "Dream Users" serialization ended, during the period when I was formulating ideas for my next work. That makes it the very first version of "Mikoto Urabe" that was ever drawn. At first, the plot I had in mind to follow "Dream Users" was also a story with many occult-ish elements. Originally, it was to be a legendary romance tale about a girl descended from a mysterious ancient clan depicted in Japan's "Record of Ancient Matters", and a boy who fell in love with her, but the editorial department didn't like that idea. They asked, "Are occult elements like the legends in the "Record of Ancient Matters" necessary in a boy-meets-girl story? To a teenage boy, aren't girls extremely mysterious beings in and of themselves?" When I received that criticism, something clicked, and after many twists and turns and ups and downs, the character I finally came up with was the "Mikoto Urabe" in the sketch above. It's been almost four years since I drew it, and it's been almost two years since the serialization of "X" began, so Urabe's image has changed quite a bit since this was drawn. For example, her chest is bigger now than that of the Urabe above. Personally, I prefer slender girls, but this change might be a result of the healthy teenage boy Akira Tsubaki's point of view gradually influencing my own. As a story progresses, the writer is always influenced by his own characters. Just as Tsubaki is both excited and anxious to see how his relationship with Urabe will develop, when I look at this earliest version of Urabe, I am both excited and anxious to see where the story of "X" will go from here.

ONE DAY,
FEBRUARY
2008
RIICHI
UESHIBA

BAD CAT

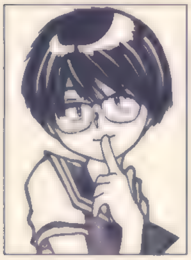


DON'T YOU THINK A GIRL WHO DROOLS WHEN SHE FALLS ASLEEP IS CUTE?

WELL, THIS IS A COMIC ABOUT THAT SORT OF GIRL.

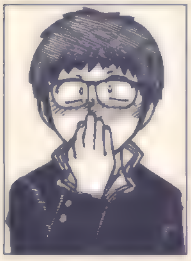
MYSTERIOUS GIRLFRIEND X

Ayuko Oka (17)



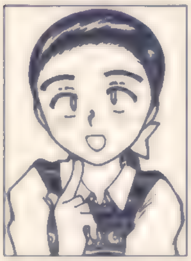
At 4'8", she's very small, but her figure is well-developed and quite gorgeous. Tsubaki spotted her kissing Ueno in the classroom after school, but she's not too bothered by it. Like Tsubaki, she is responsive to Urabe's drool.

Kouhei Ueno (17)



Tsubaki's best friend.
He's been going out with their classmate, Oka, since they were sophomores. Ueno's fond way of talking about Oka frequently influences Tsubaki's ideas about relationships.

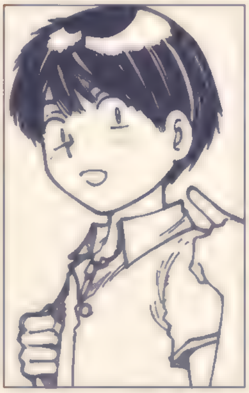
Youko Tsubaki (24)



Akira's sister, seven years his senior. She handles all the housework in place of their mother, who died when they were young. Akira is highly indebted to her.

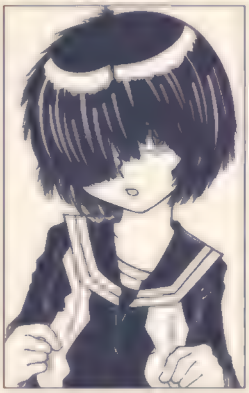
Characters

Akira Tsubaki (17)

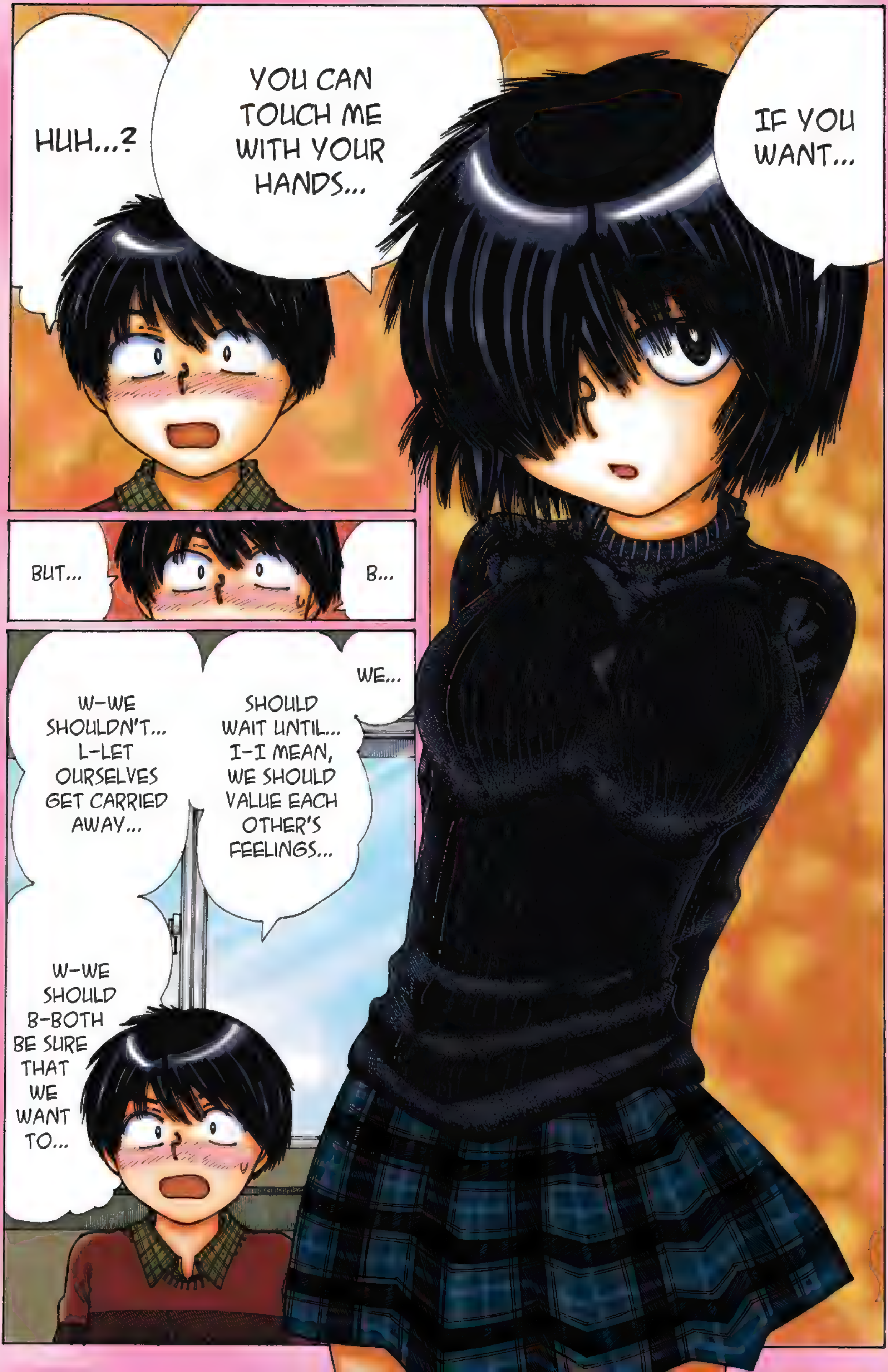


The protagonist of the story. His bizarre relationship with Urabe began after he licked her drool one day. He is as interested in girls as any boy his age, but Urabe takes the lead in their relationship and Tsubaki can't seem to initiate any progress between them.

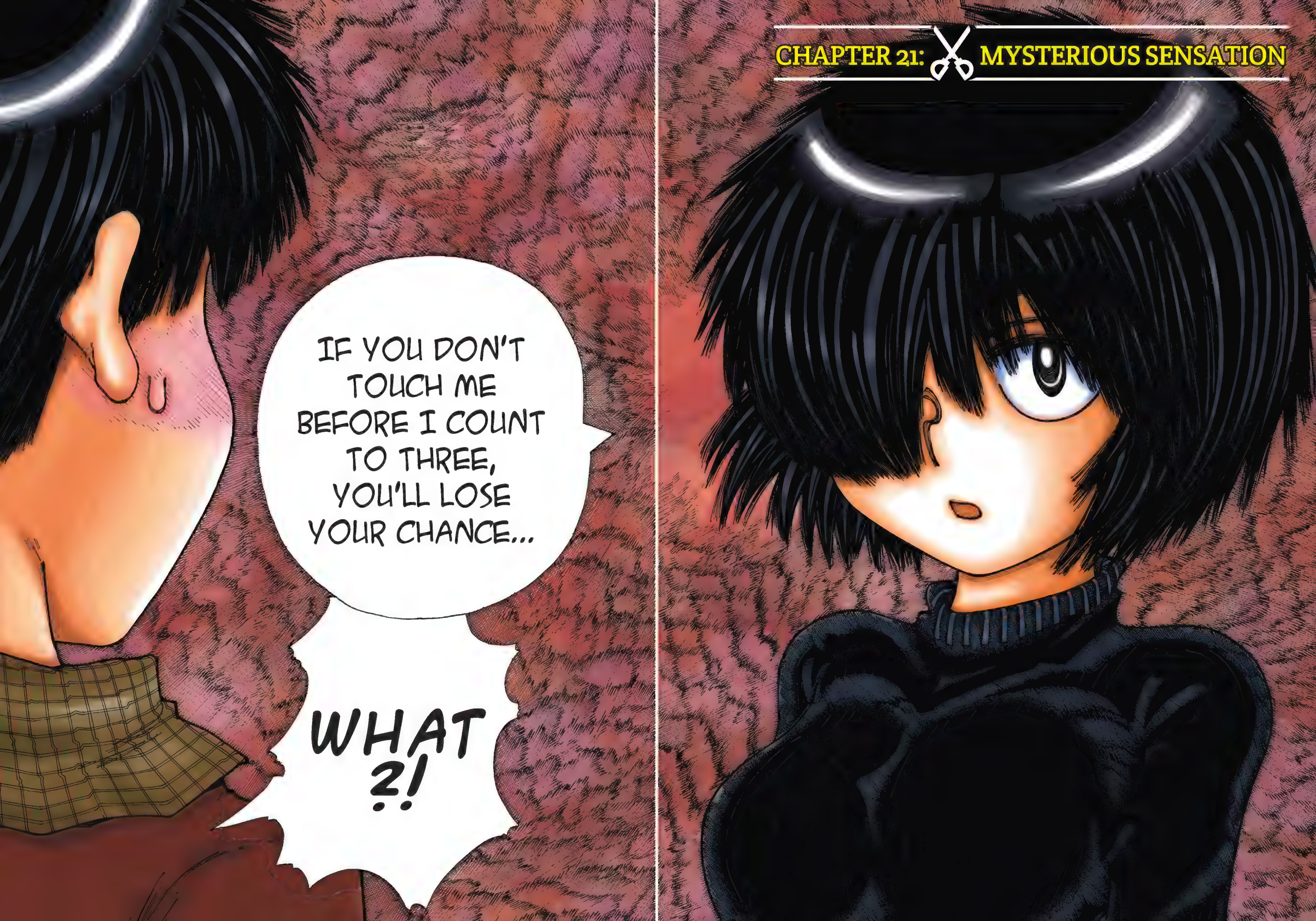
Mikoto Urabe (17)

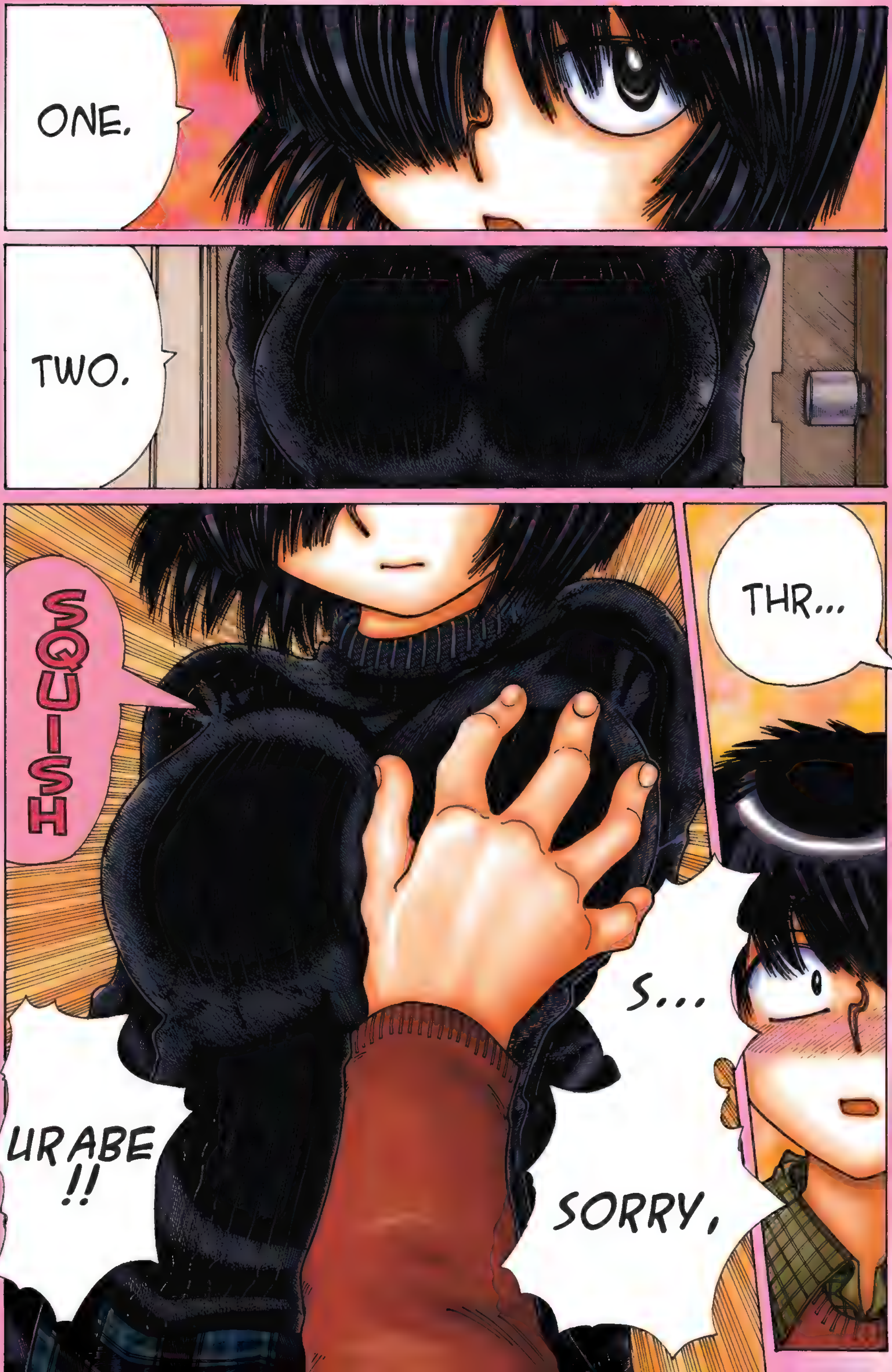


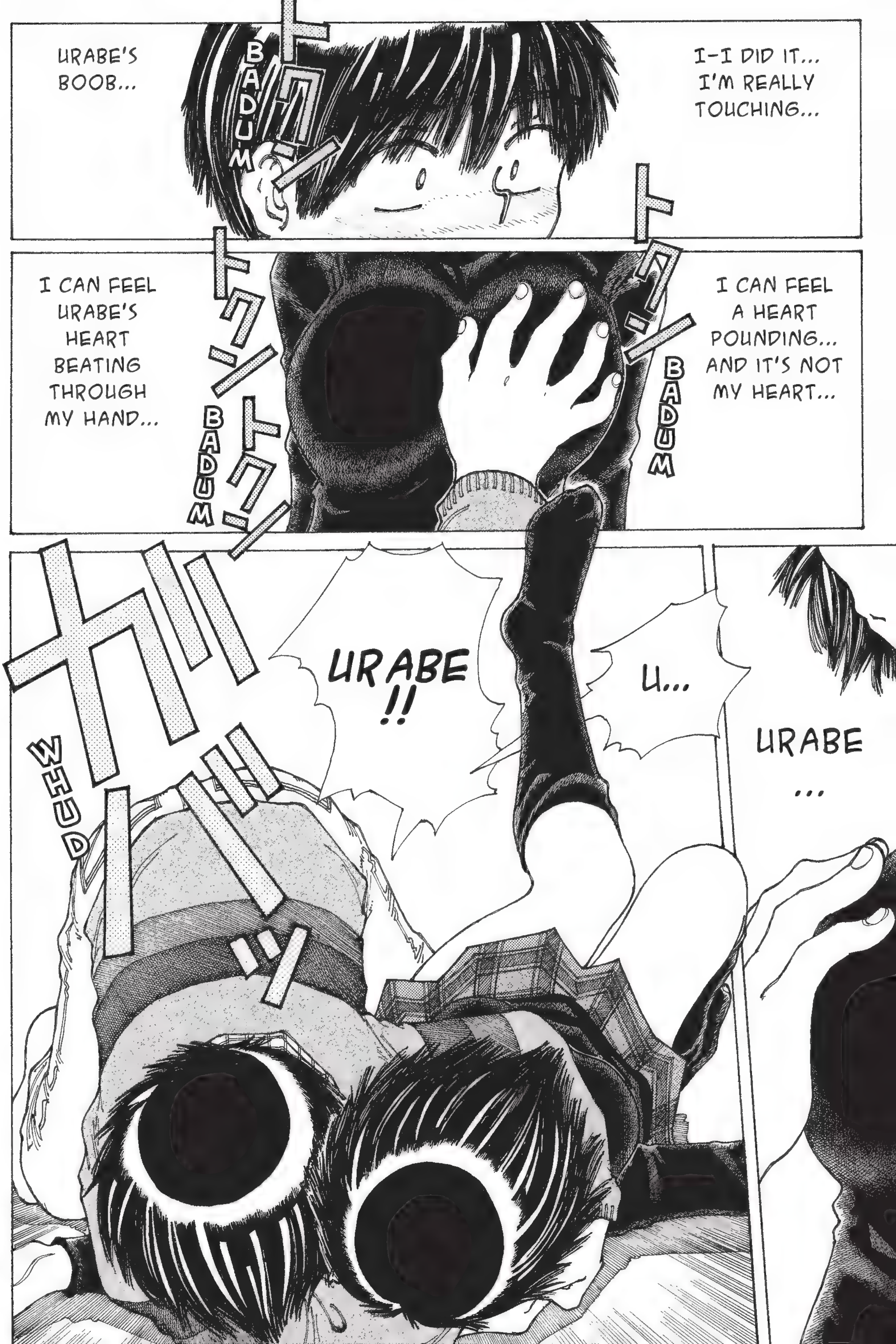
A transfer student who joined Tsubaki's class. She can convey her own feelings through her drool, as well as pick up on Tsubaki's feelings through his. She's antisocial and everything she says and does is mysterious, but her ideas about love are very pure. Her hobby is using scissors, which she can use to cut up anything.

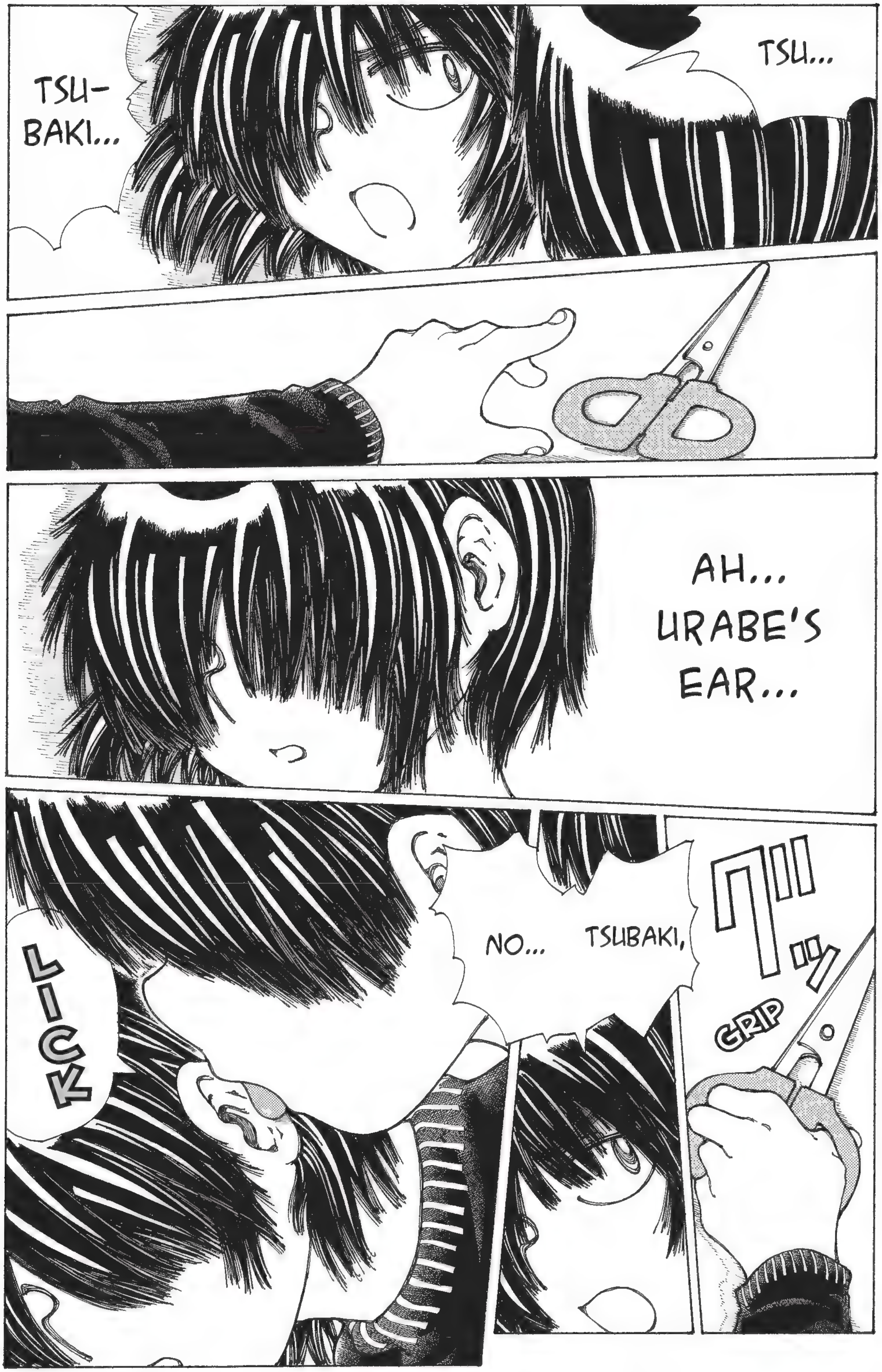

IF YOU WANT...
YOU CAN TOUCH ME WITH YOUR HANDS...
HUH...?
B...
BUT...
WE...
SHOULD WAIT UNTIL... I-I MEAN, WE SHOULD VALUE EACH OTHER'S FEELINGS...
W-WE SHOULDN'T... L-LET OURSELVES GET CARRIED AWAY...
W-WE SHOULD B-BOTH BE SURE THAT WE WANT TO...

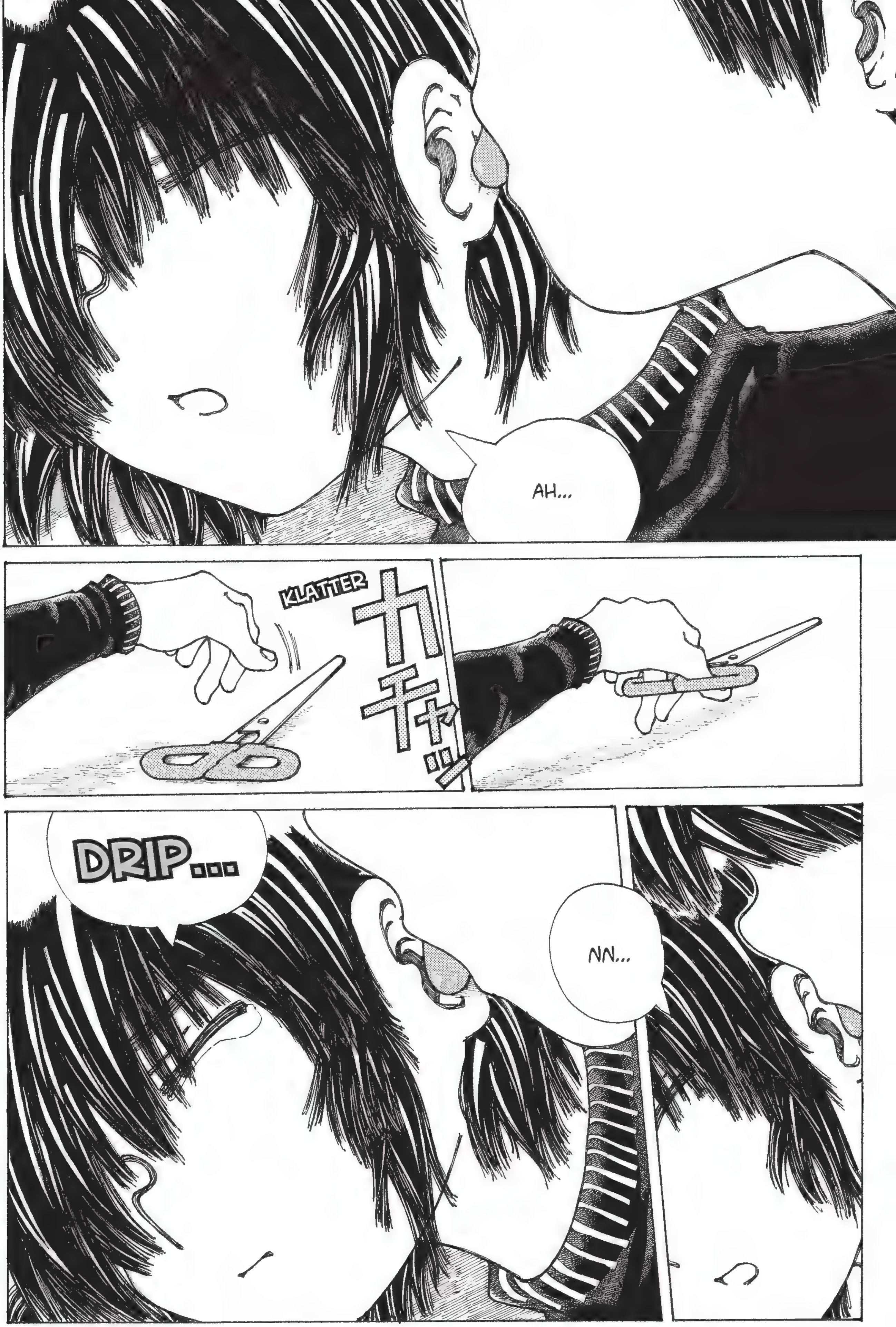
CHAPTER 21: MYSTERIOUS SENSATION

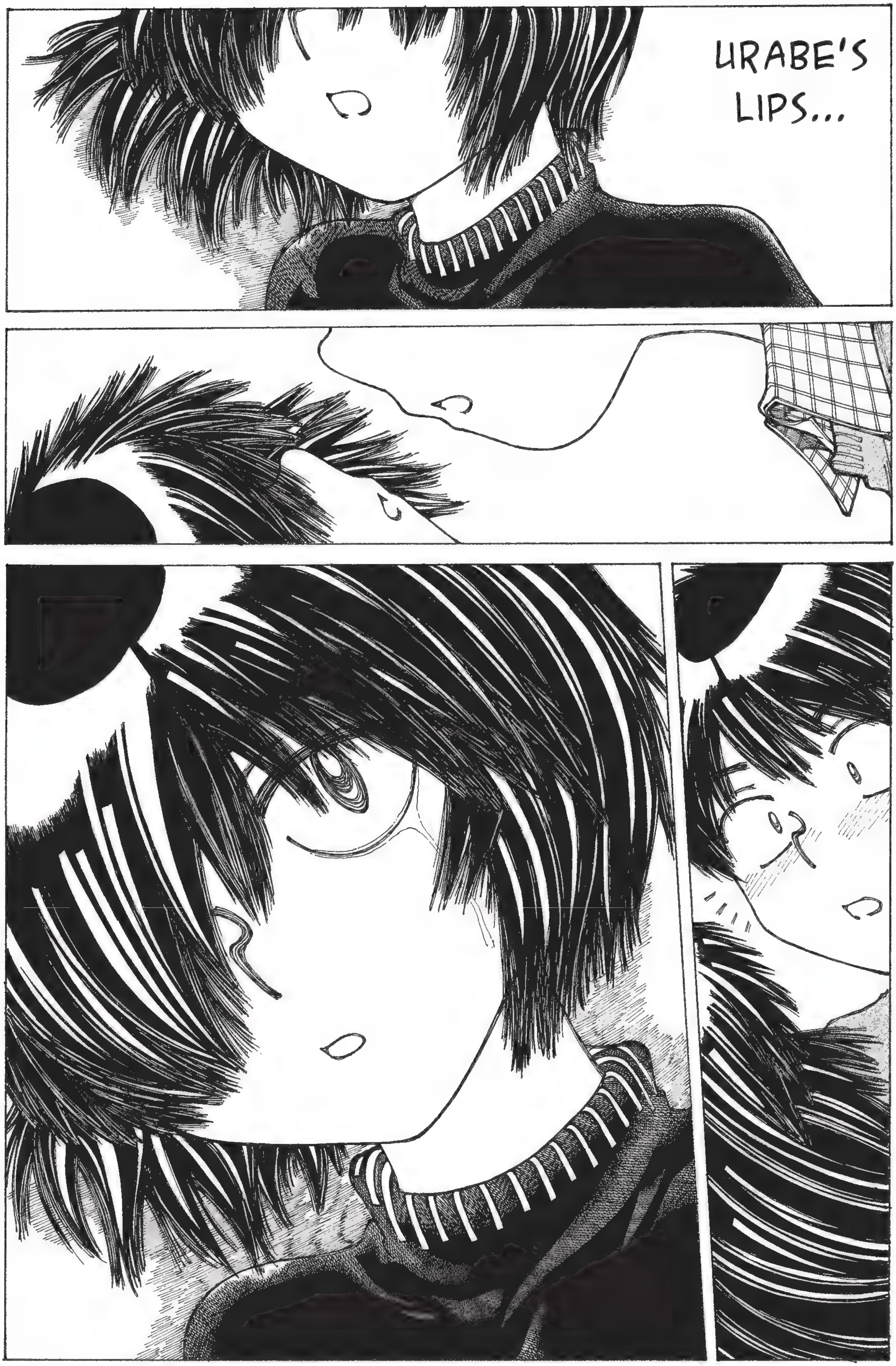

IF YOU DON'T TOUCH ME BEFORE I COUNT TO THREE, YOU'LL LOSE YOUR CHANCE...
WHAT?!

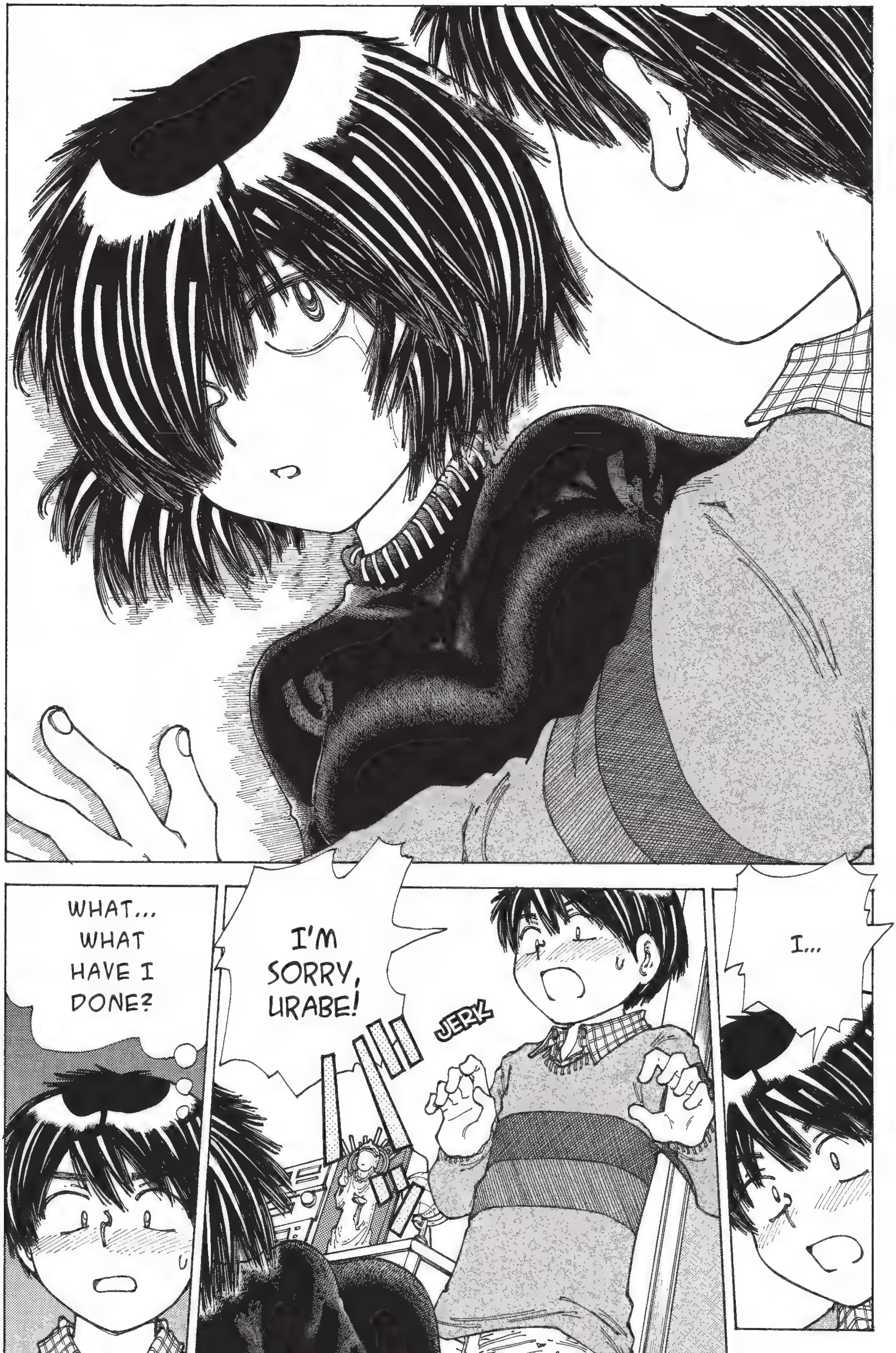

ONE.
TWO.
THR...
SQUISH
S...
SORRY,
URABE!!

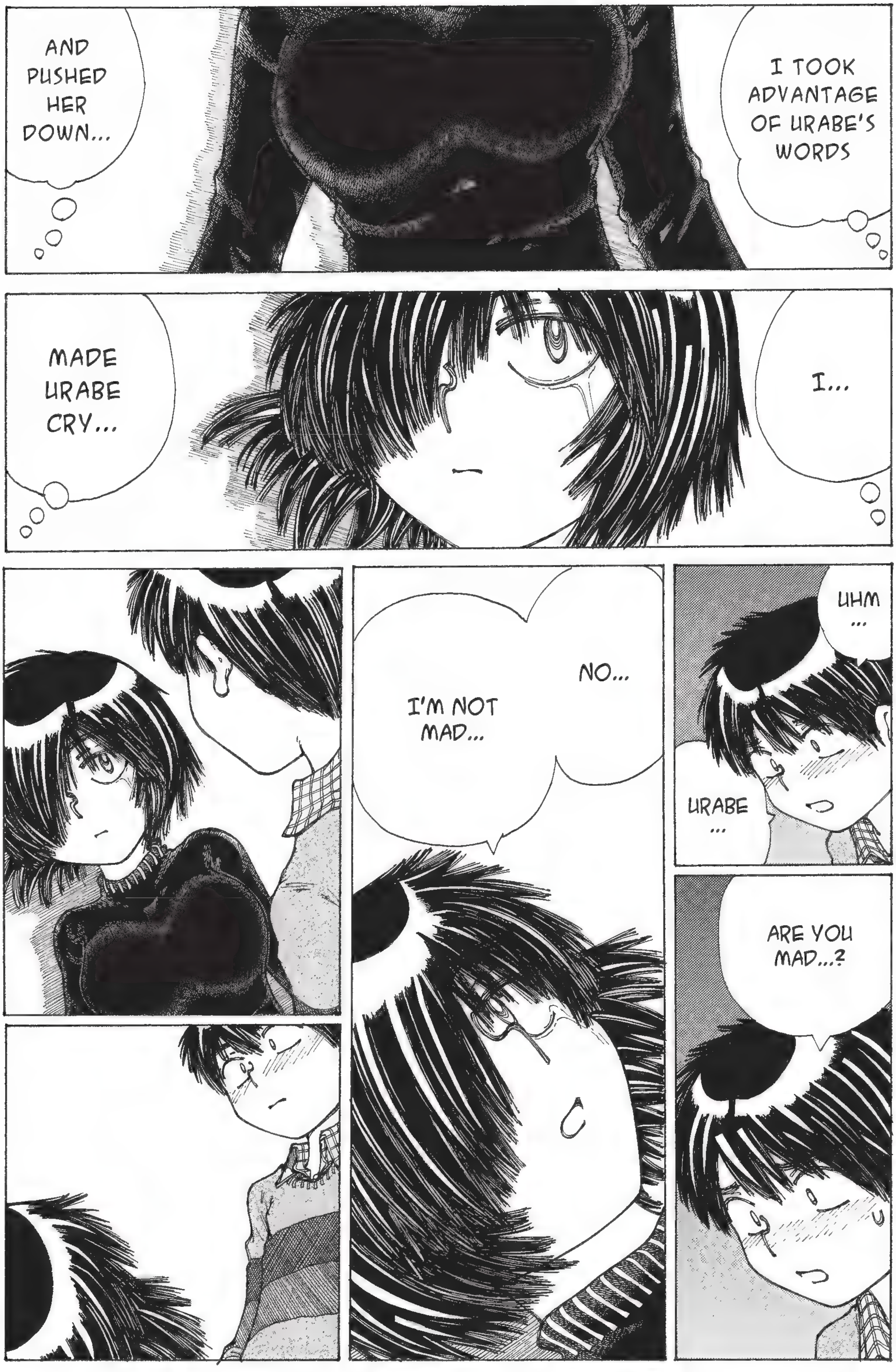

トクン
BADUM
I-I DID IT... I'M REALLY TOUCHING...
URABE'S BOOB...
トクン
BADUM
I CAN FEEL A HEART POUNDING... AND IT'S NOT MY HEART...
I CAN FEEL URABE'S HEART BEATING THROUGH MY HAND...
トクン トクン
BADUM
URABE ...
U...
URABE !!
ガバッ
WHUD

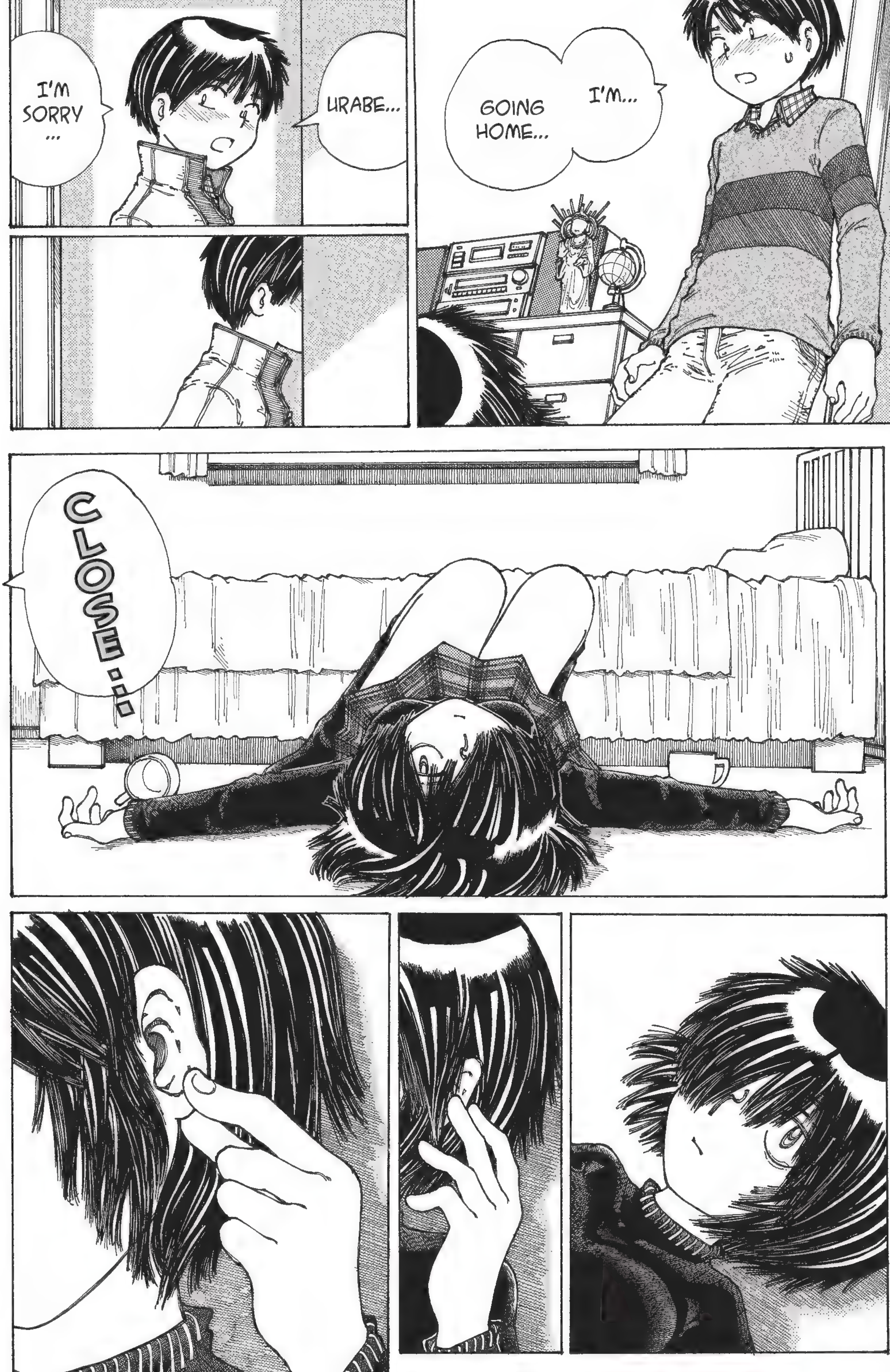

TSU...
TSU-BAKI...
AH... URABE'S EAR...
グッ
GRIP
NO... TSUBAKI,
LICK

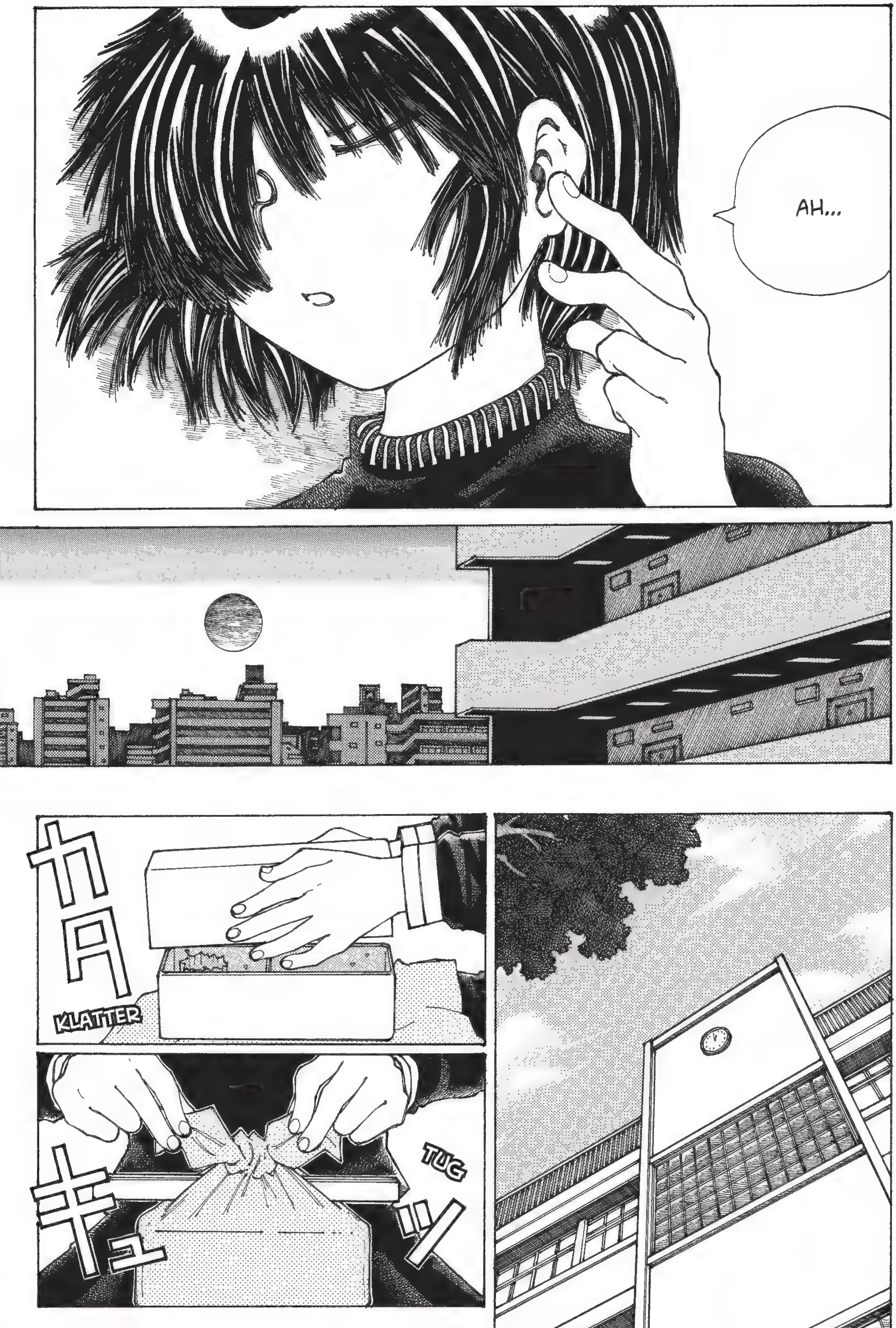

AH...
カチャッ
KLATTER
NN...
DRIP...

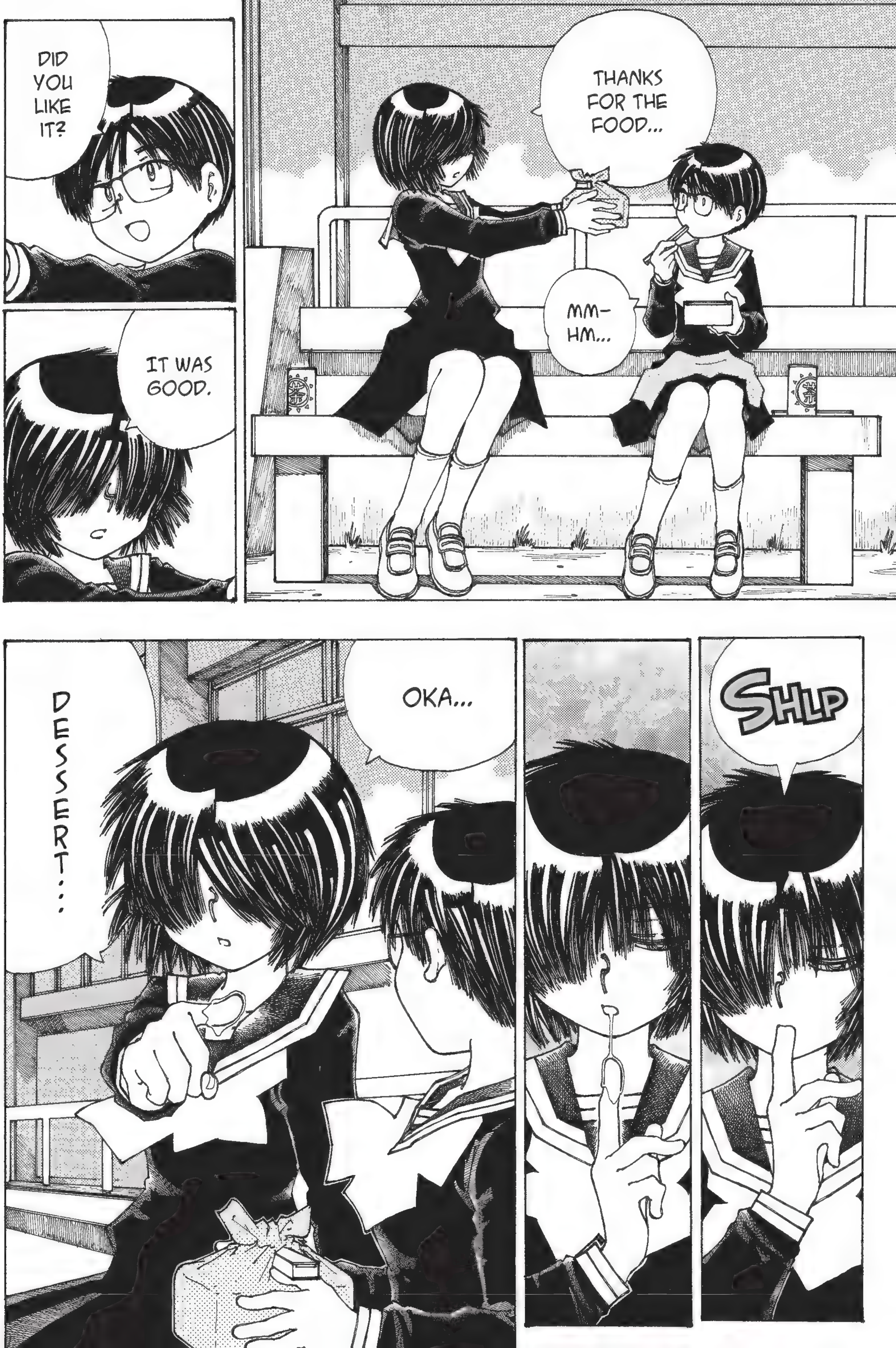

URABE'S LIPS...

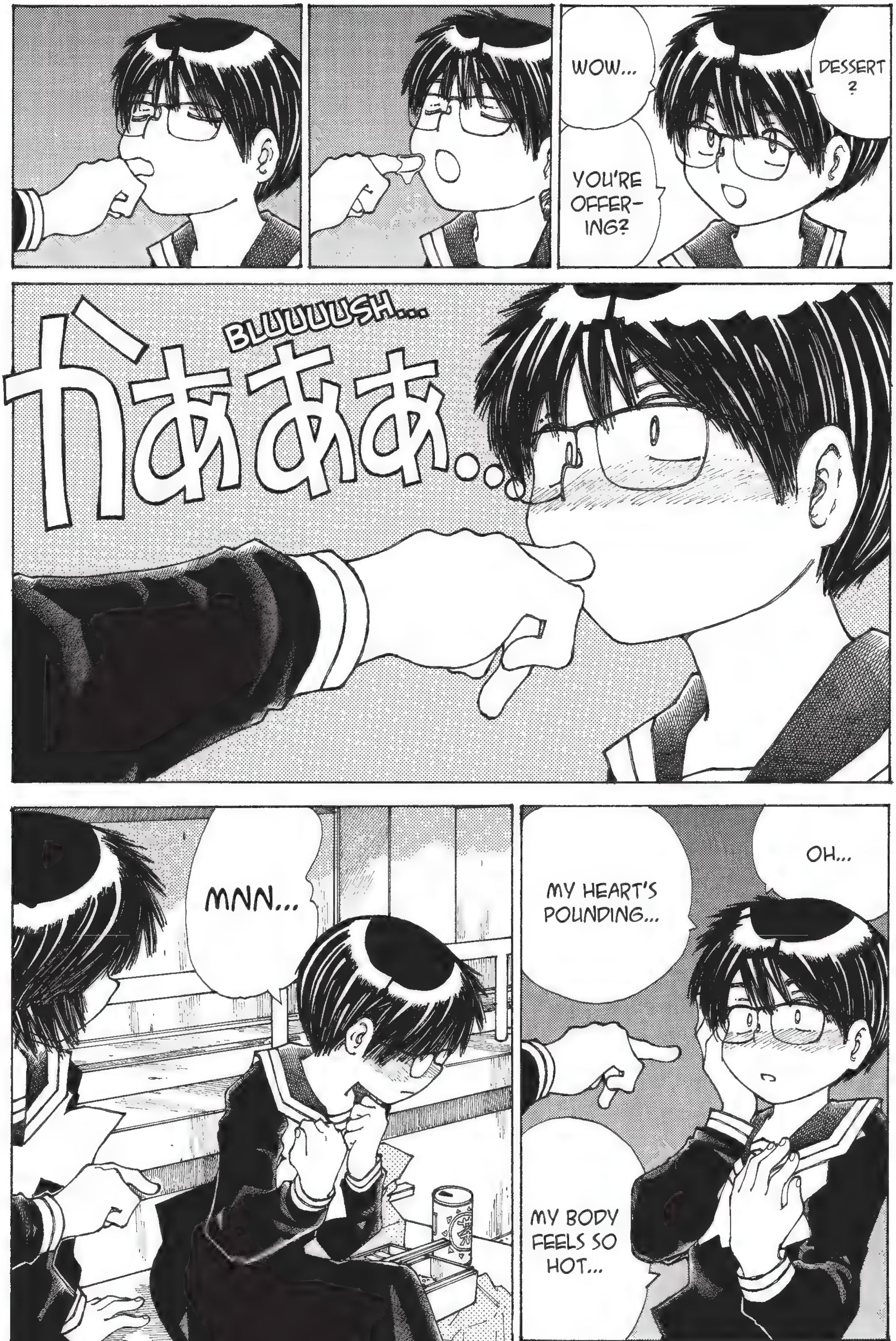

I...
I'M SORRY, URABE!
JERK
WHAT... WHAT HAVE I DONE?

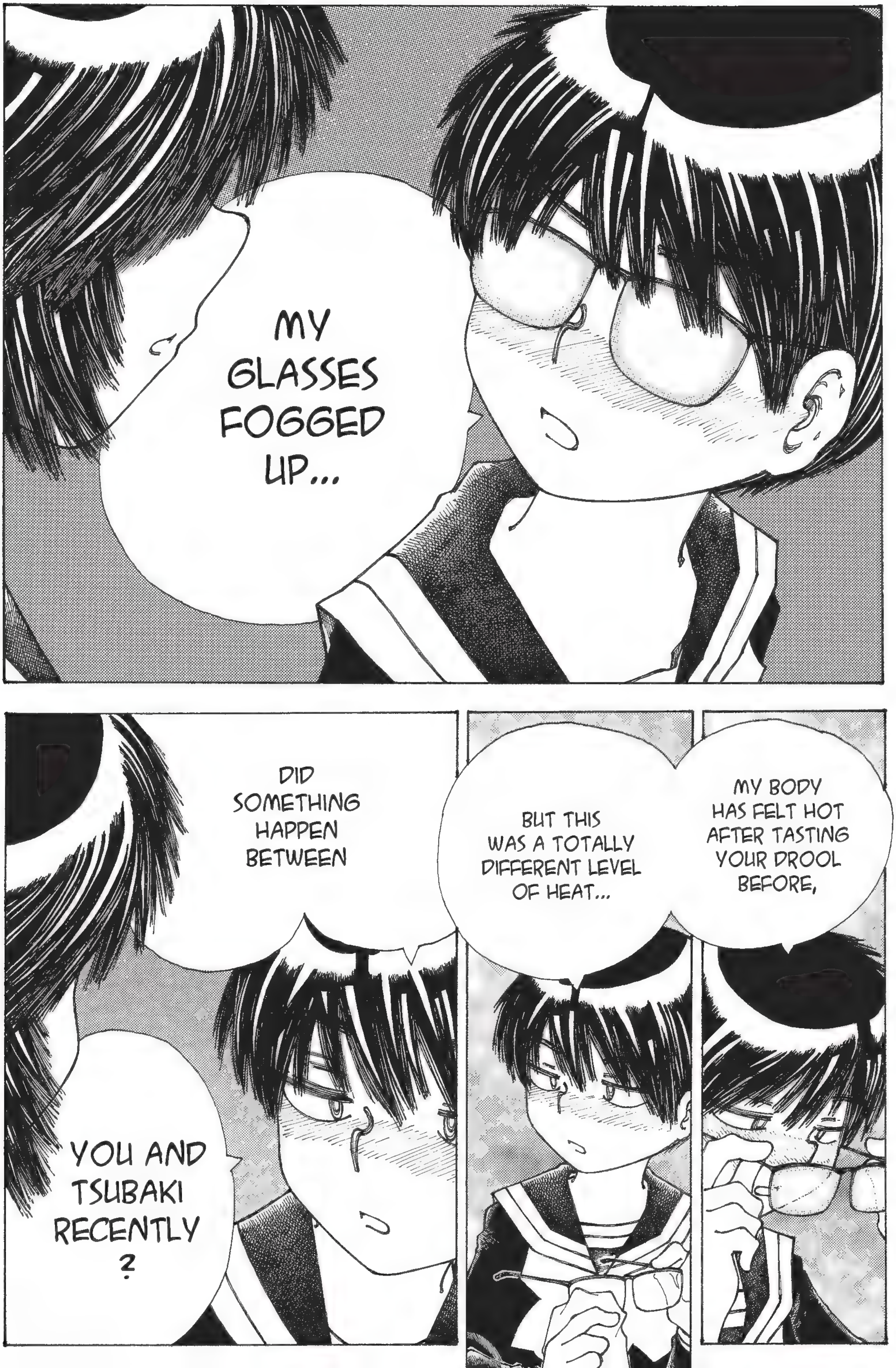

I TOOK ADVANTAGE OF URABE'S WORDS
AND PUSHED HER DOWN...
I...
MADE URABE CRY...
UHM ...
URABE ...
ARE YOU MAD...?
NO...
I'M NOT MAD...

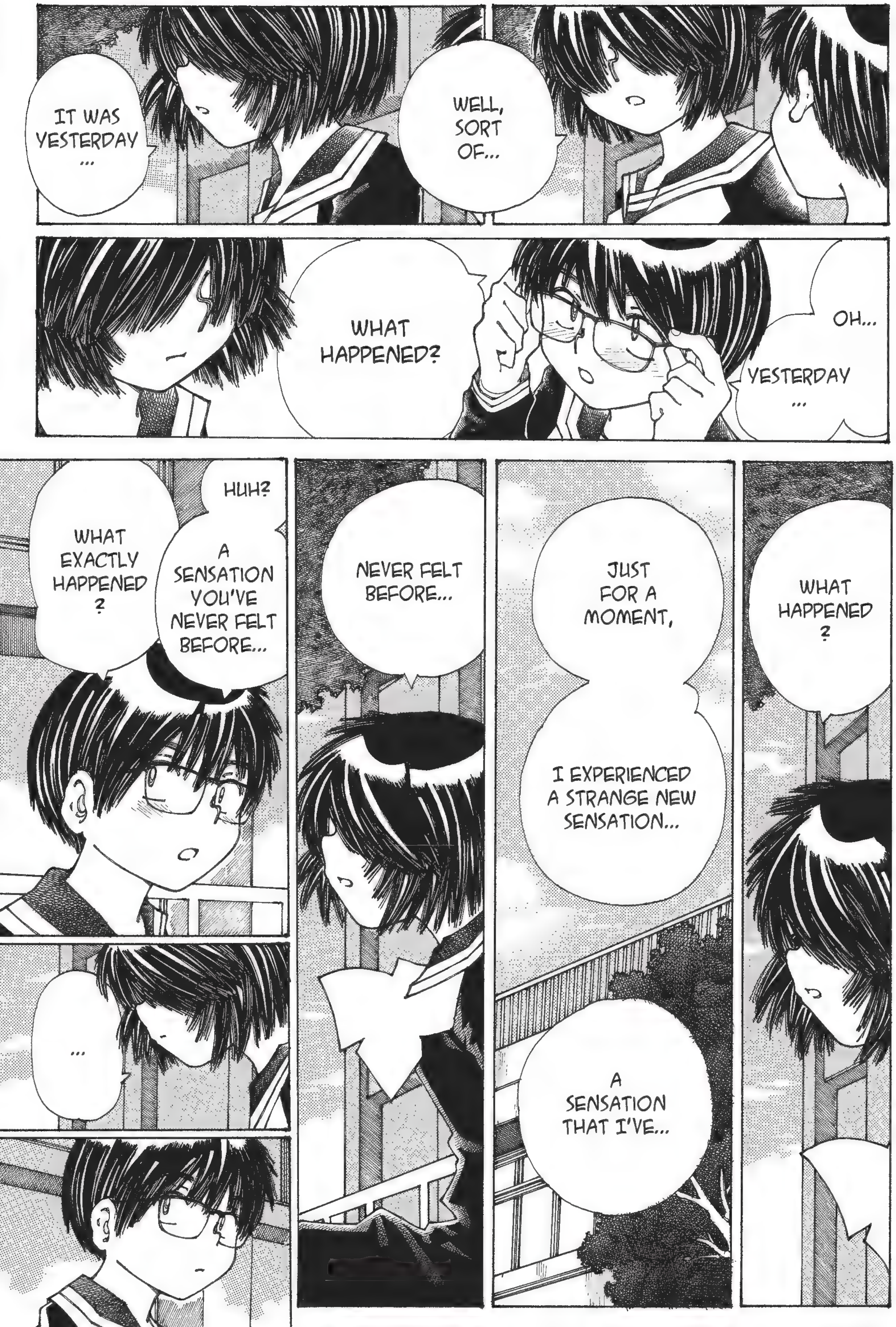

I'M...
GOING HOME...
URABE...
I'M SORRY...
CLOSE...

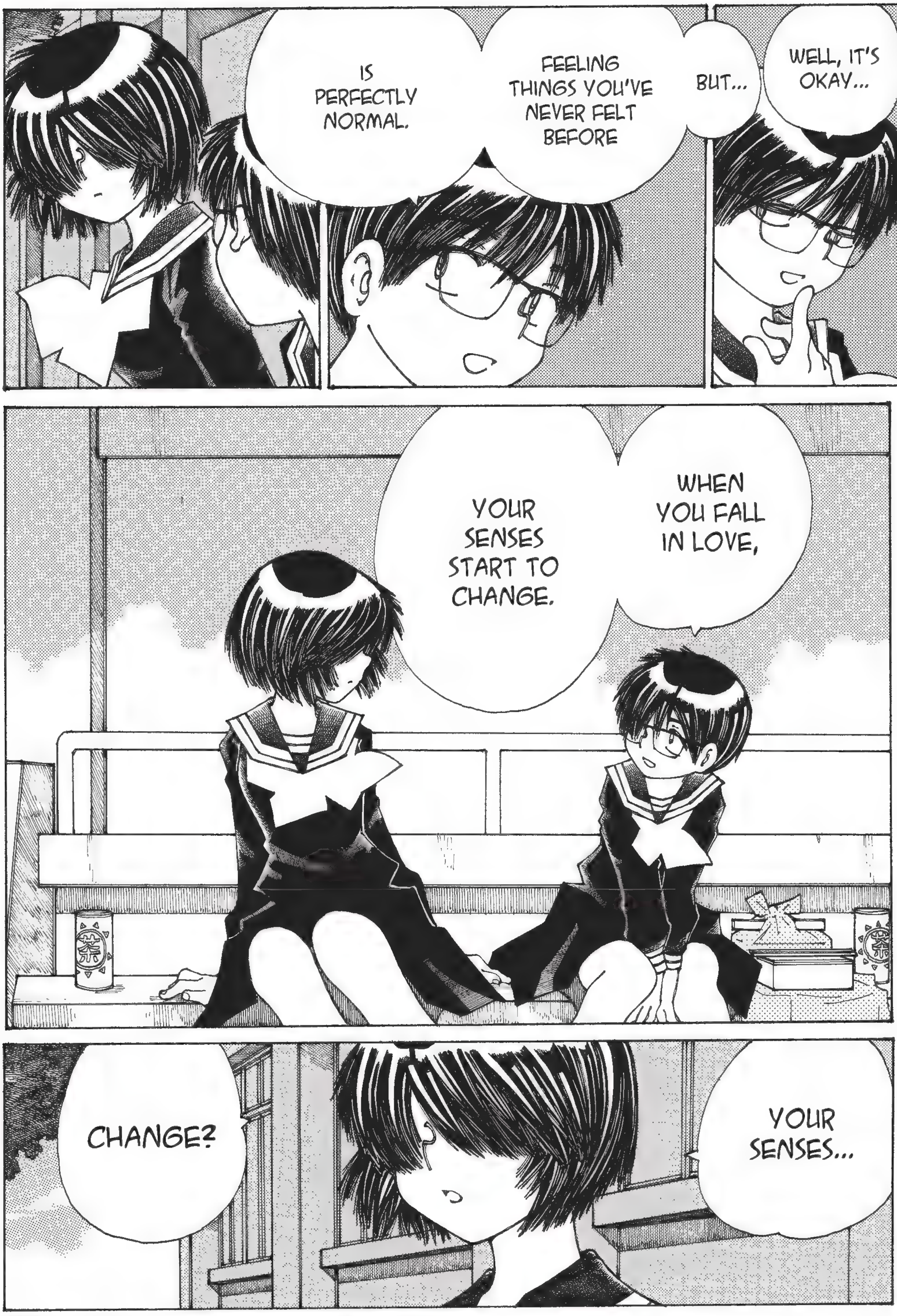

AH...
カパ
KLATTER
キュッ
TUG


THANKS FOR THE FOOD...
MM-HM...
DID YOU LIKE IT?
IT WAS GOOD.
SHLP
OKA...
DESSERT...


DESSERT?
WOW...
YOU'RE OFFERING?
BLUUUUSH...
かあああ...
OH...
MY HEART'S POUNDING...
MY BODY FEELS SO HOT...
MNN...

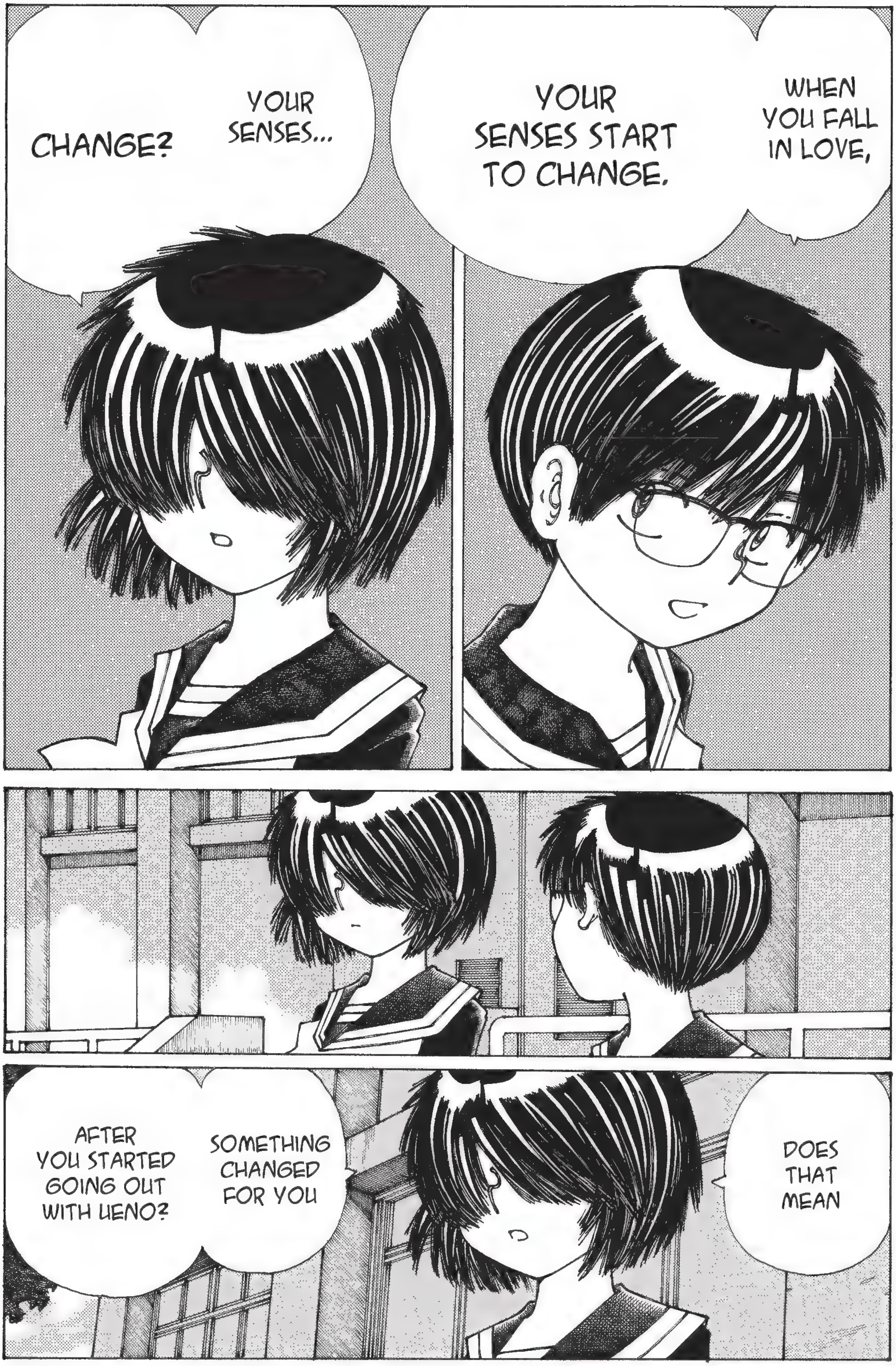

MY GLASSES FOGGED UP...
MY BODY HAS FELT HOT AFTER TASTING YOUR DROOL BEFORE,
BUT THIS WAS A TOTALLY DIFFERENT LEVEL OF HEAT...
DID SOMETHING HAPPEN BETWEEN
YOU AND TSUBAKI RECENTLY?

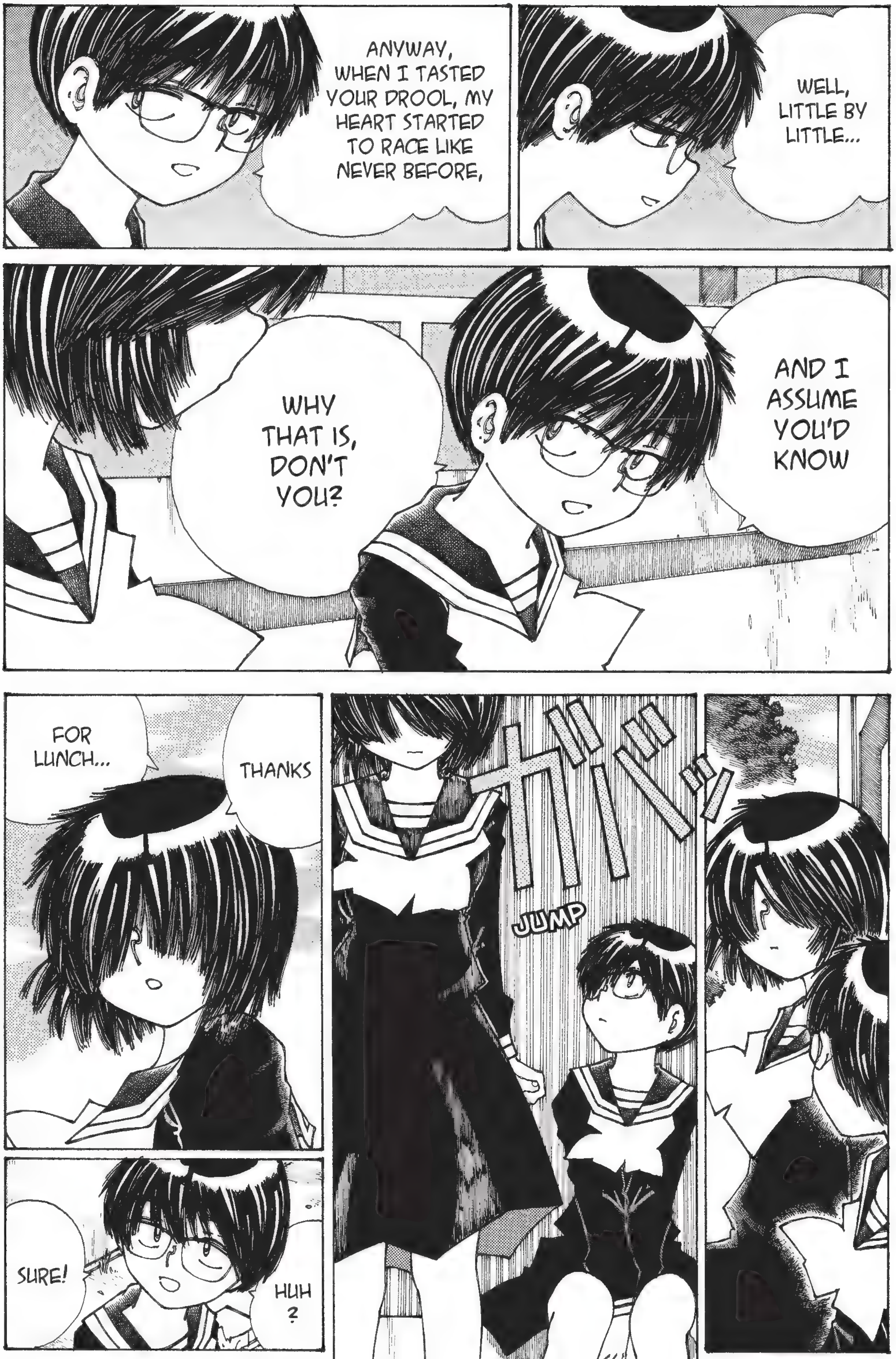

WELL, SORT OF...
IT WAS YESTERDAY ...
OH... YESTERDAY ...
WHAT HAPPENED?
WHAT HAPPENED?
JUST FOR A MOMENT,
I EXPERIENCED A STRANGE NEW SENSATION...
A SENSATION THAT I'VE...
NEVER FELT BEFORE...
HUH?
A SENSATION YOU'VE NEVER FELT BEFORE...
WHAT EXACTLY HAPPENED?
...

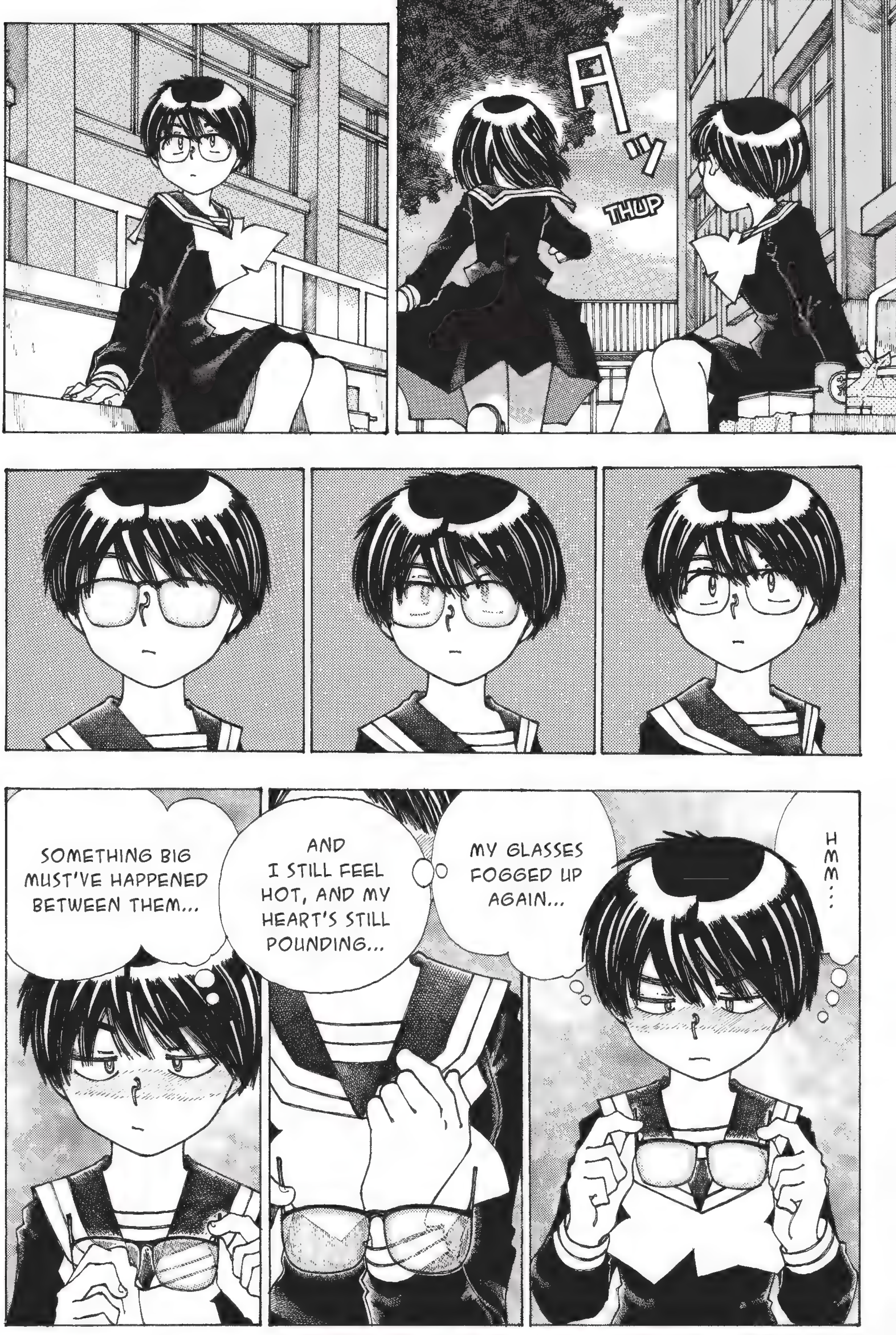

WELL, IT'S OKAY...
BUT...
FEELING THINGS YOU'VE NEVER FELT BEFORE
IS PERFECTLY NORMAL.
WHEN YOU FALL IN LOVE,
YOUR SENSES START TO CHANGE.
茶
茶
YOUR SENSES...
CHANGE?

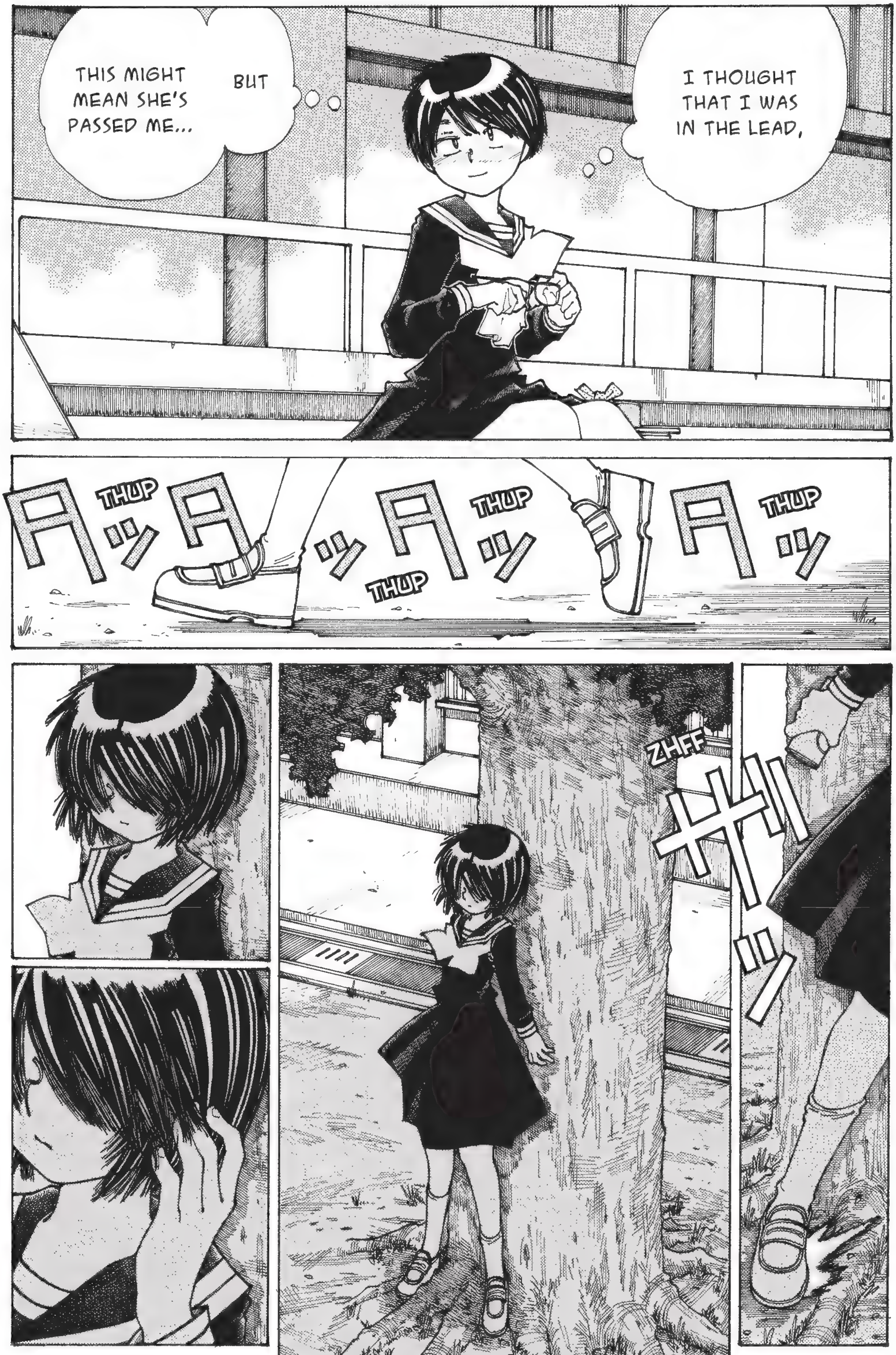
END OF CHAPTER 21

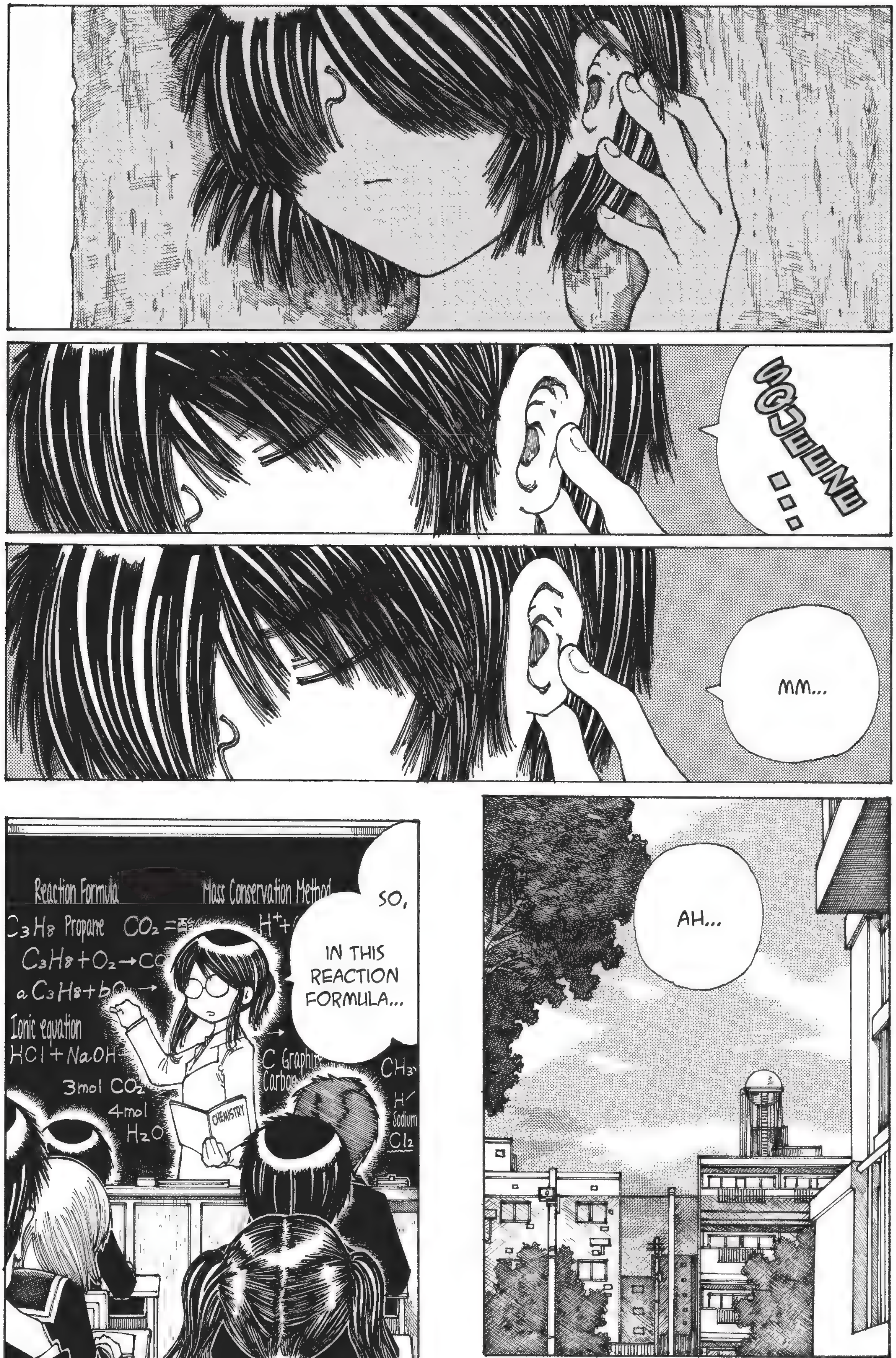
CHAPTER 22: MYSTERIOUS RESPONSE

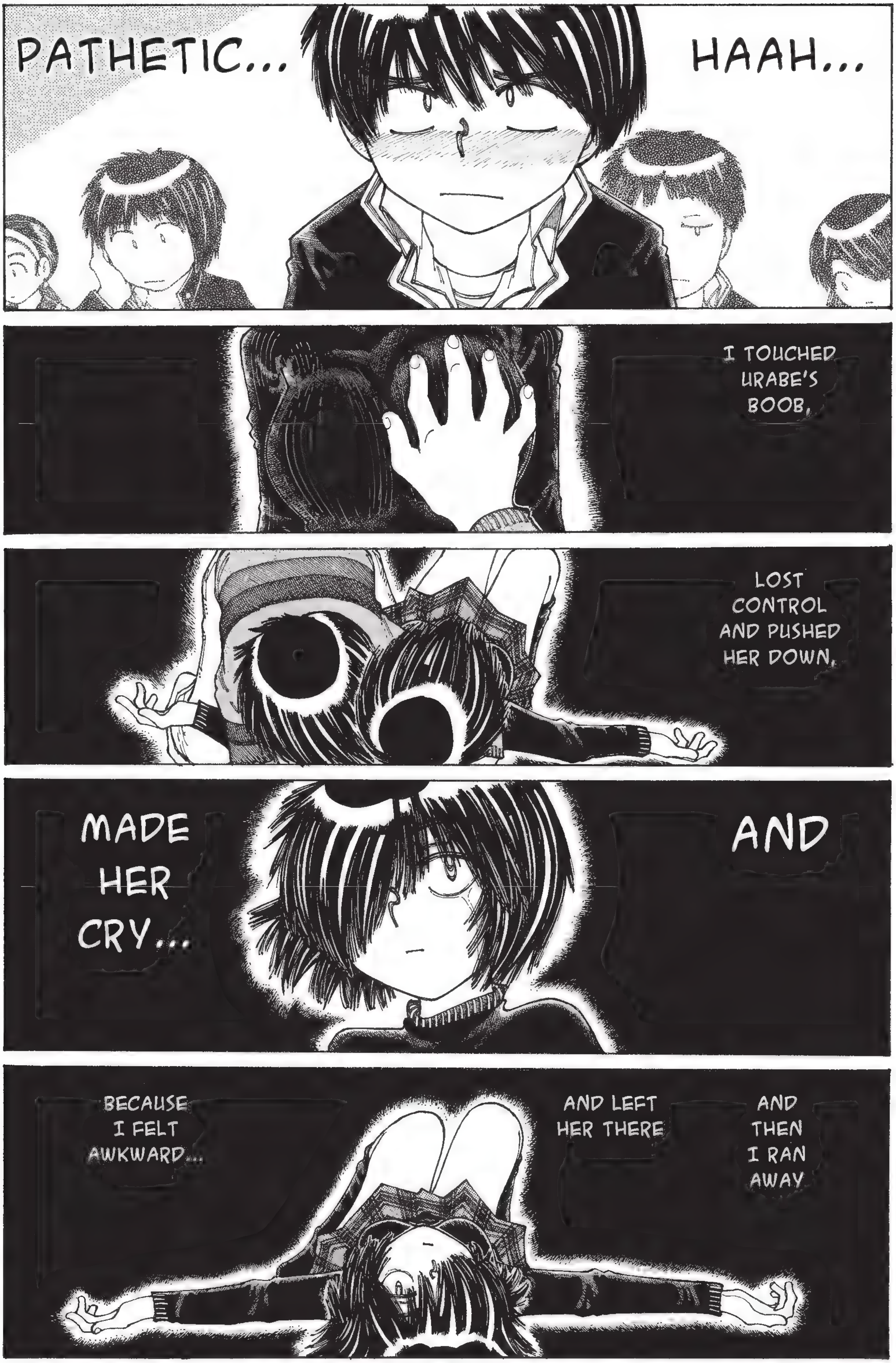

WHEN YOU FALL IN LOVE,
YOUR SENSES START TO CHANGE.
YOUR SENSES...
CHANGE?
DOES THAT MEAN
SOMETHING CHANGED FOR YOU
AFTER YOU STARTED GOING OUT WITH UENO?

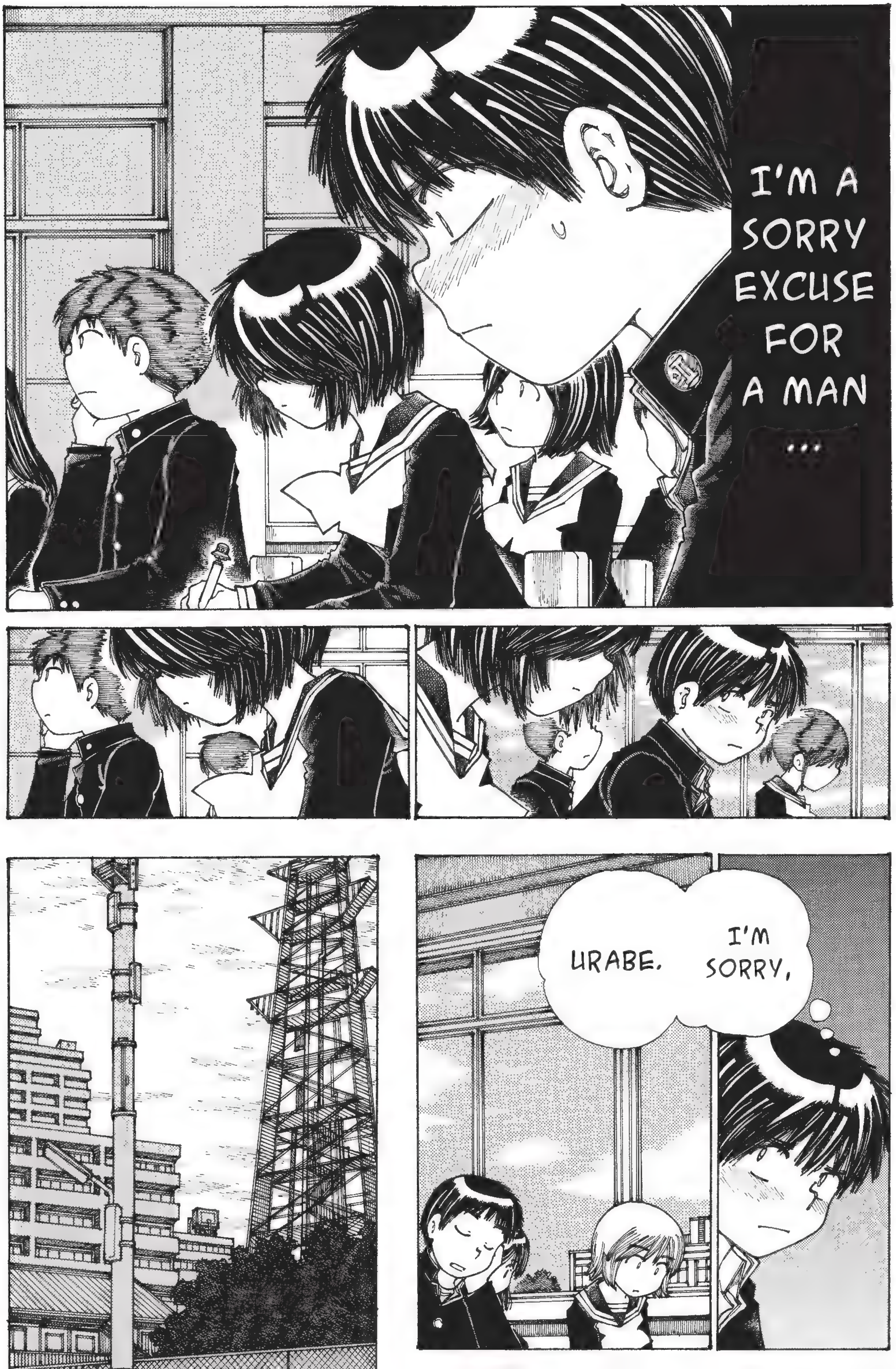

WELL, LITTLE BY LITTLE...
ANYWAY, WHEN I TASTED YOUR DROOL, MY HEART STARTED TO RACE LIKE NEVER BEFORE,
AND I ASSUME YOU'D KNOW
WHY THAT IS, DON'T YOU?
ガバッ
JUMP
THANKS
FOR LUNCH...
HUH ?
SURE!

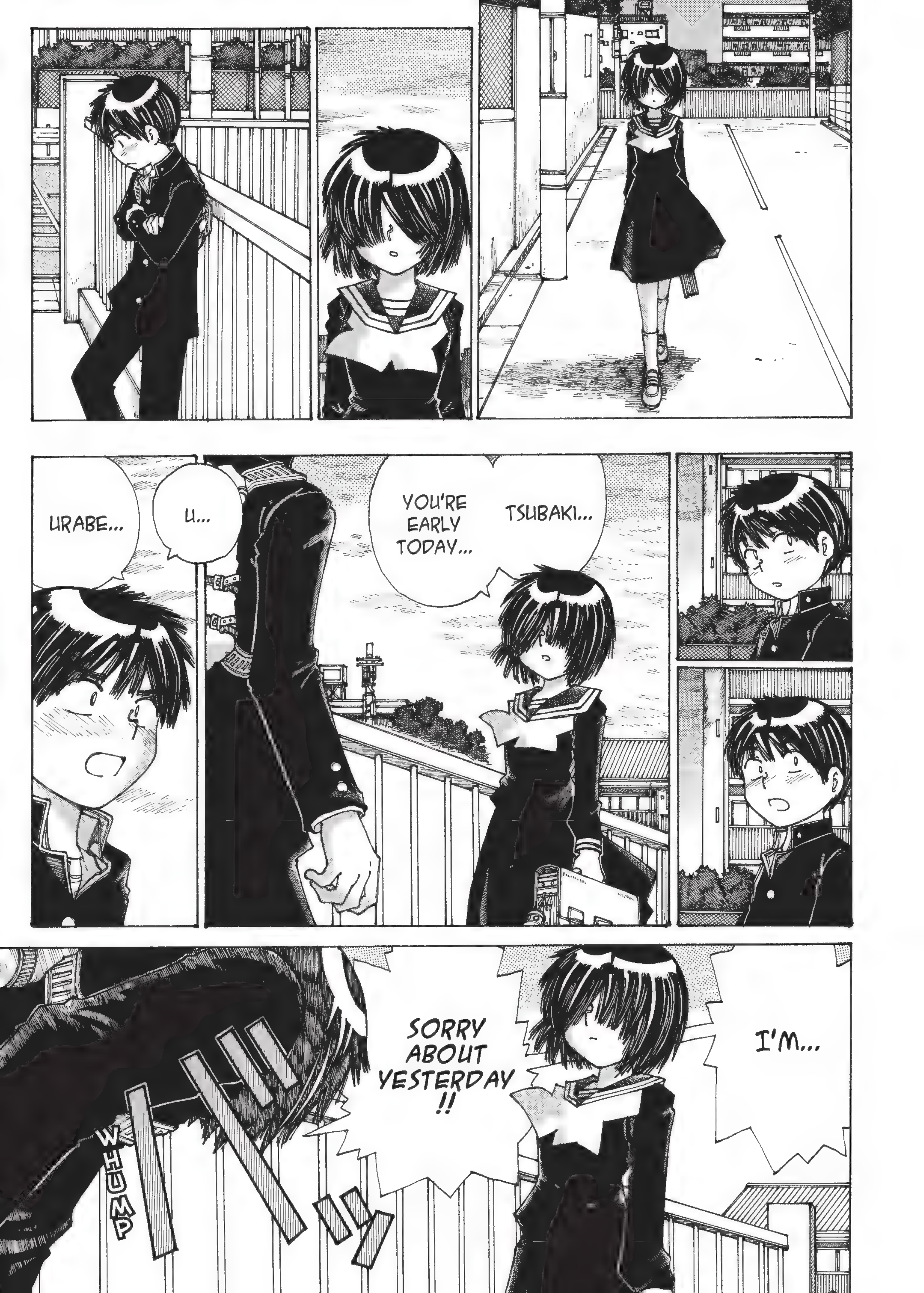

アッ
THUP
HMM...
MY GLASSES FOGGED UP AGAIN...
AND I STILL FEEL HOT, AND MY HEART'S STILL POUNDING...
SOMETHING BIG MUST'VE HAPPENED BETWEEN THEM...

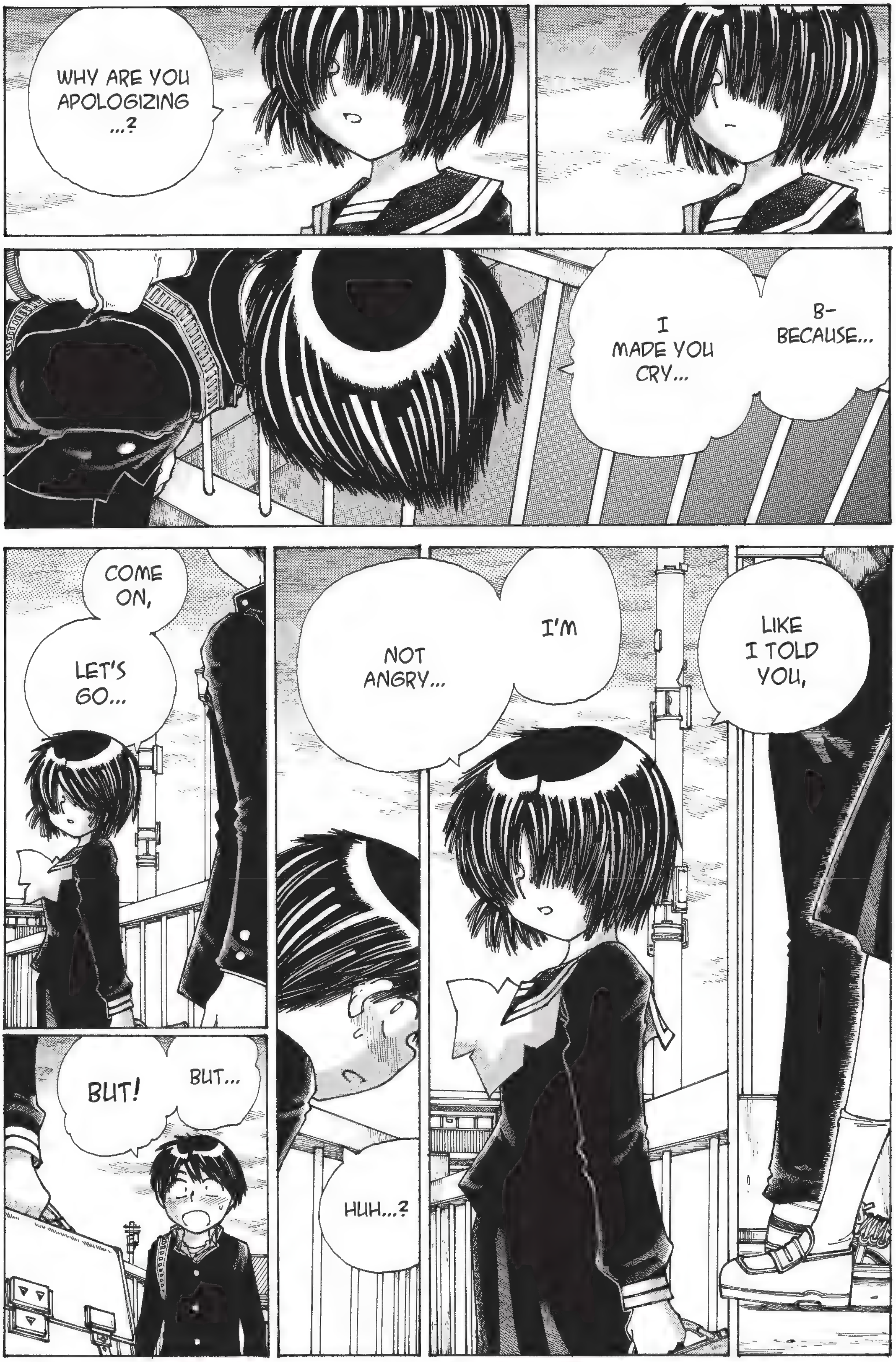

I THOUGHT THAT I WAS IN THE LEAD,
BUT
THIS MIGHT MEAN SHE'S PASSED ME...
タッ THUP
タッ THUP
タッ THUP
タッ THUP
ZHFF ザッ

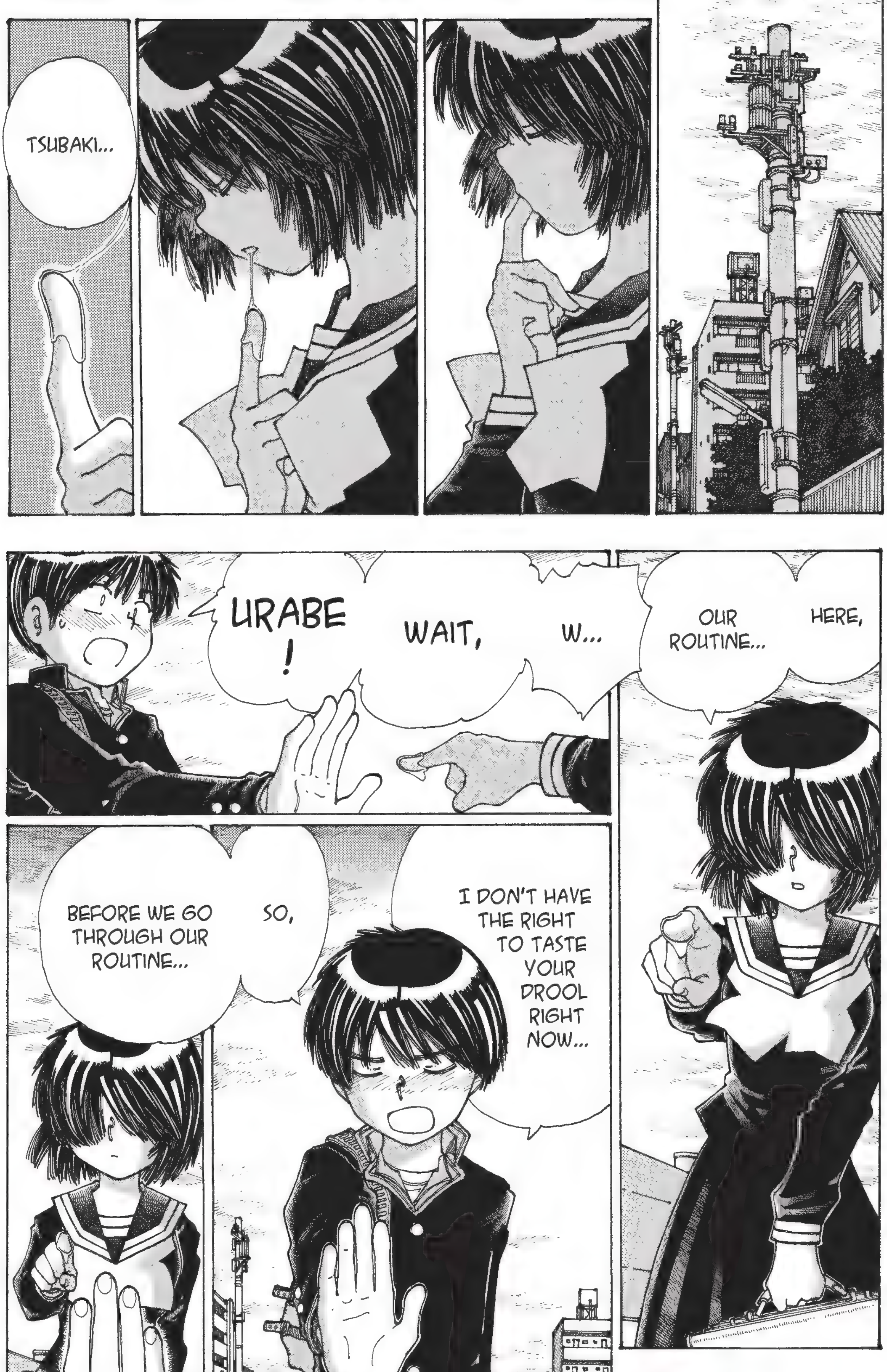

SQUEEZE...
MM...
AH...
SO, IN THIS REACTION FORMULA...
Reaction Formula
Mass Conservation Method
C3H8 Propane
CO2
C3H8+O2→CO
aC3H8+bO→
Ionic equation
HCl+NaOH
3mol CO2
4mol
H2O
C Graphite
Carbon
CH3
H
Sodium
Cl2
CHEMISTRY

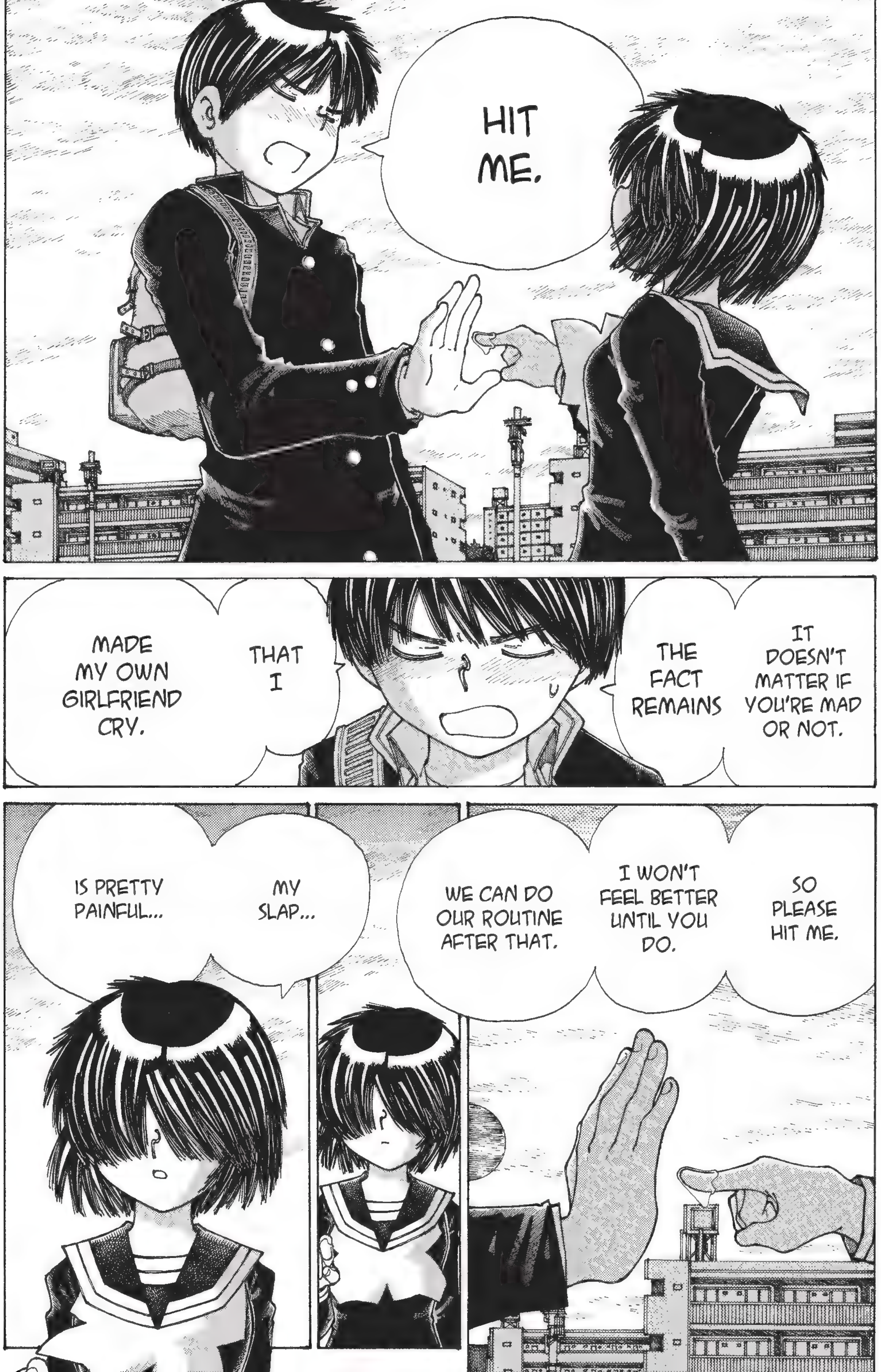

HAAH...
PATHETIC...
I TOUCHED URABE'S BOOB,
LOST CONTROL AND PUSHED HER DOWN,
AND
MADE HER CRY...
AND THEN I RAN AWAY
AND LEFT HER THERE
BECAUSE I FELT AWKWARD...

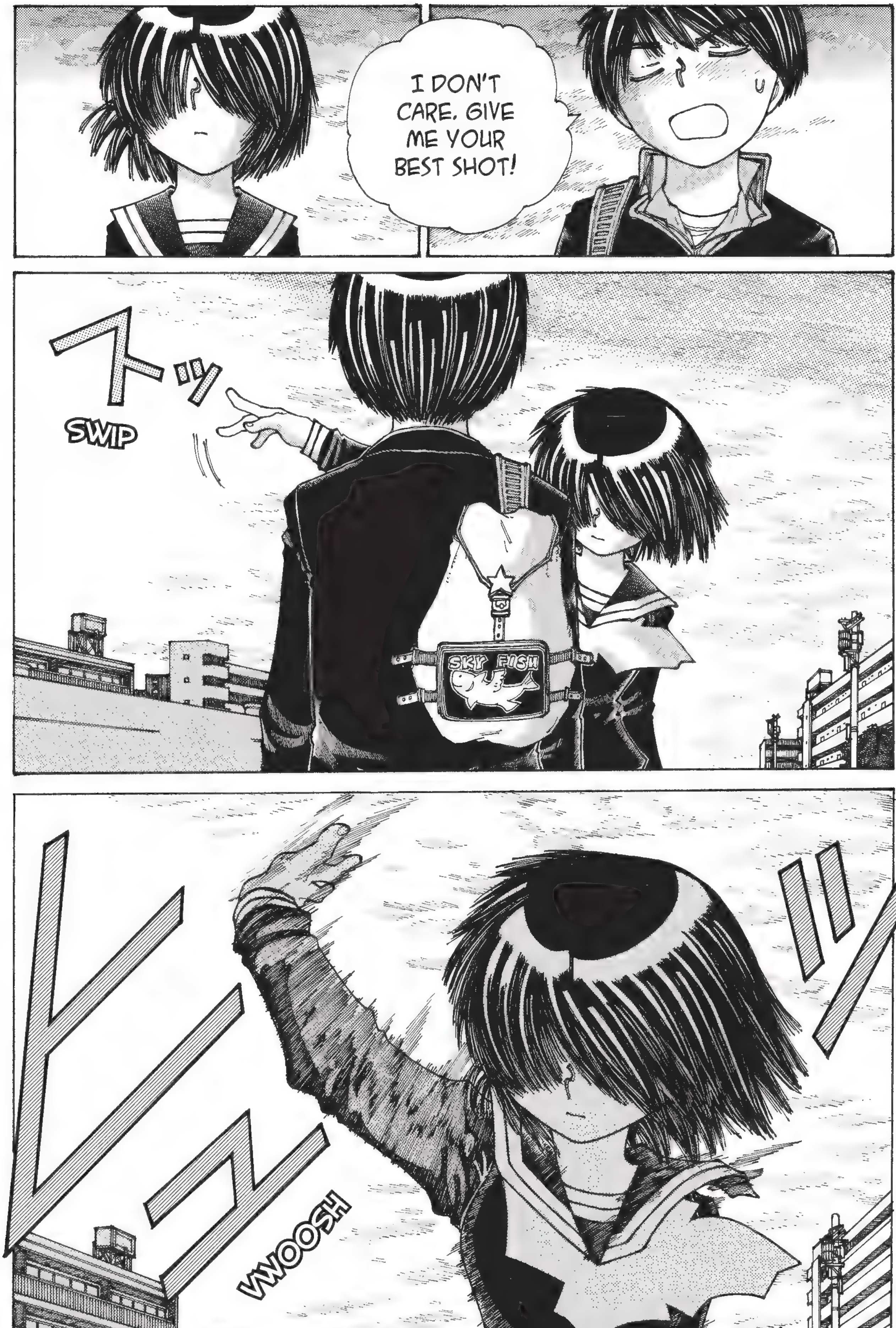

I'M A SORRY EXCUSE FOR A MAN ...
I'M SORRY, URABE.

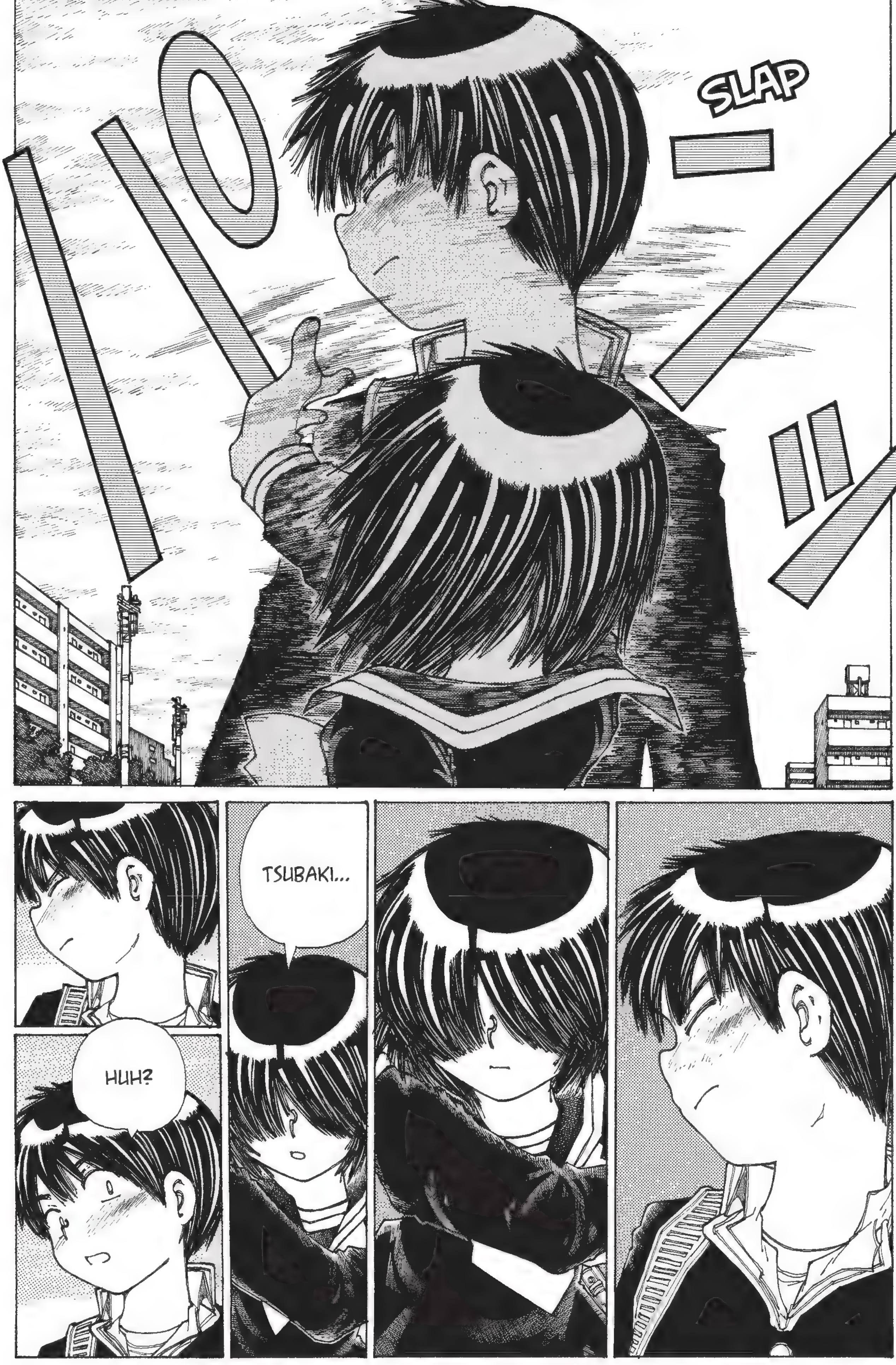

TSUBAKI...
YOU'RE EARLY TODAY...
U...
URABE...
I'M...
SORRY ABOUT YESTERDAY !!
WHUMP

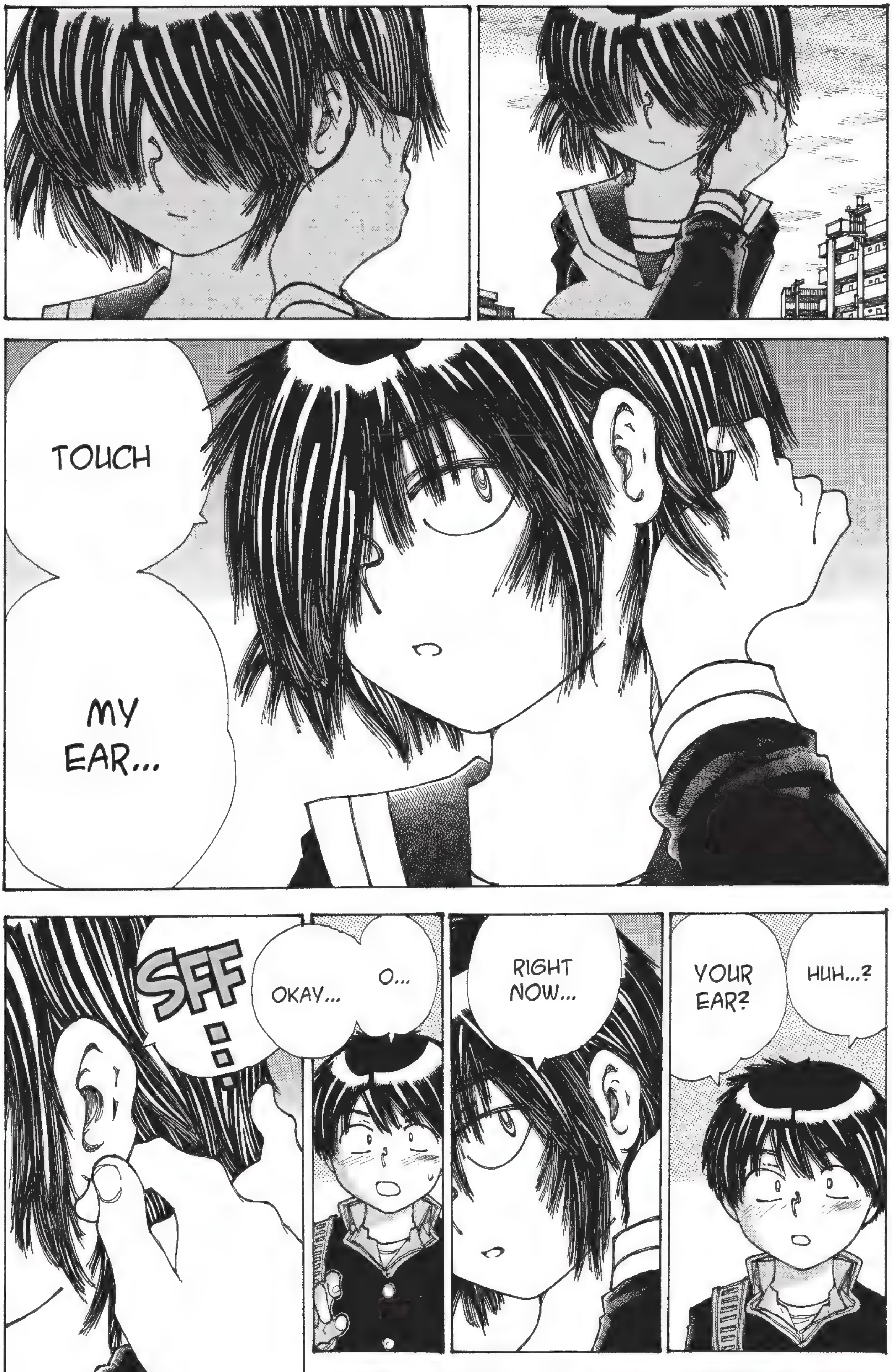

WHY ARE YOU APOLOGIZING ...?
B- BECAUSE...
I MADE YOU CRY...
LIKE I TOLD YOU,
I'M
NOT ANGRY...
HUH...?
COME ON,
LET'S GO...
BUT...
BUT!

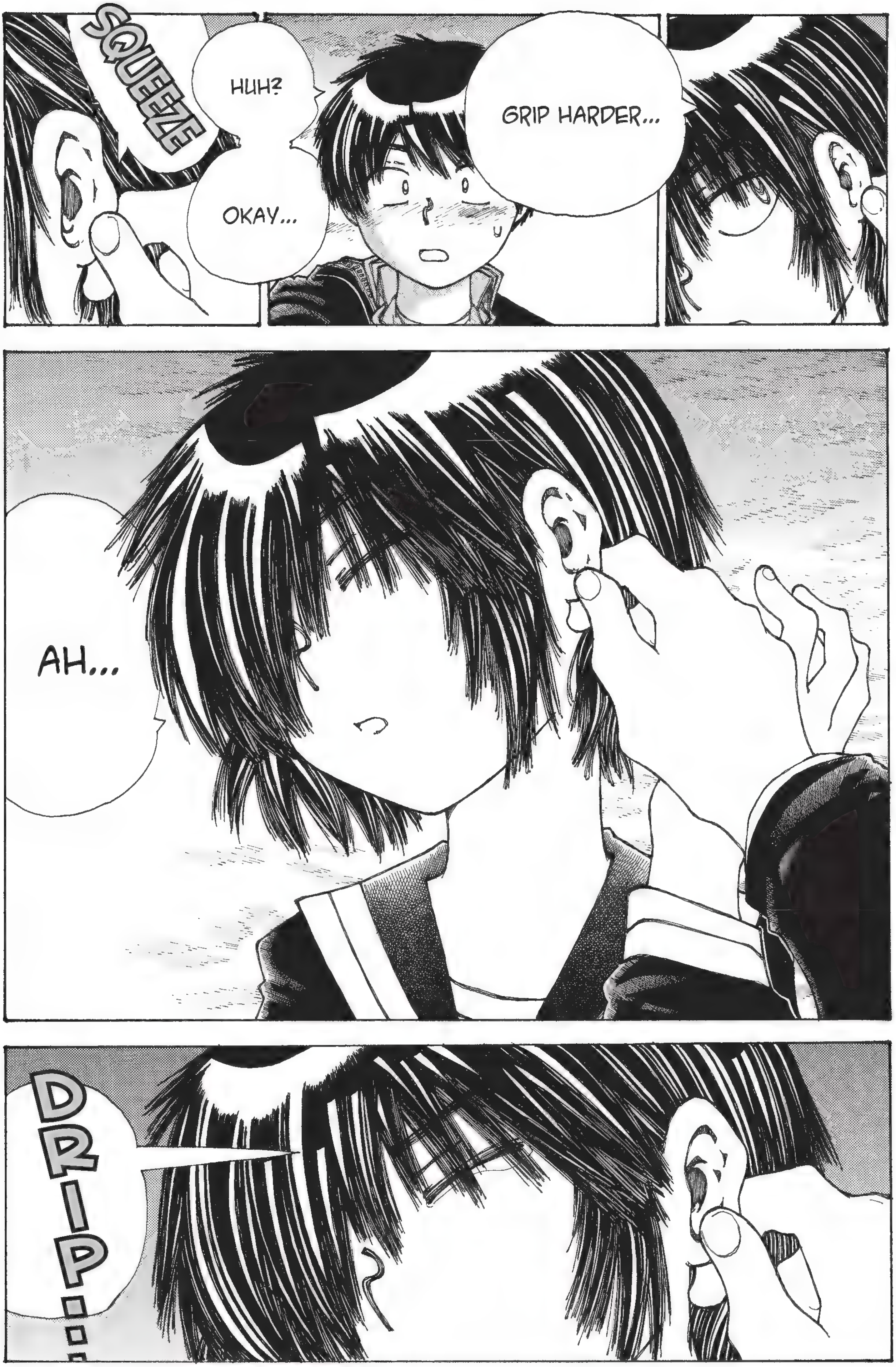

TSUBAKI...
HERE, OUR ROUTINE...
W... WAIT, URABE!
I DON'T HAVE THE RIGHT TO TASTE YOUR DROOL RIGHT NOW...
SO, BEFORE WE GO THROUGH OUR ROUTINE...

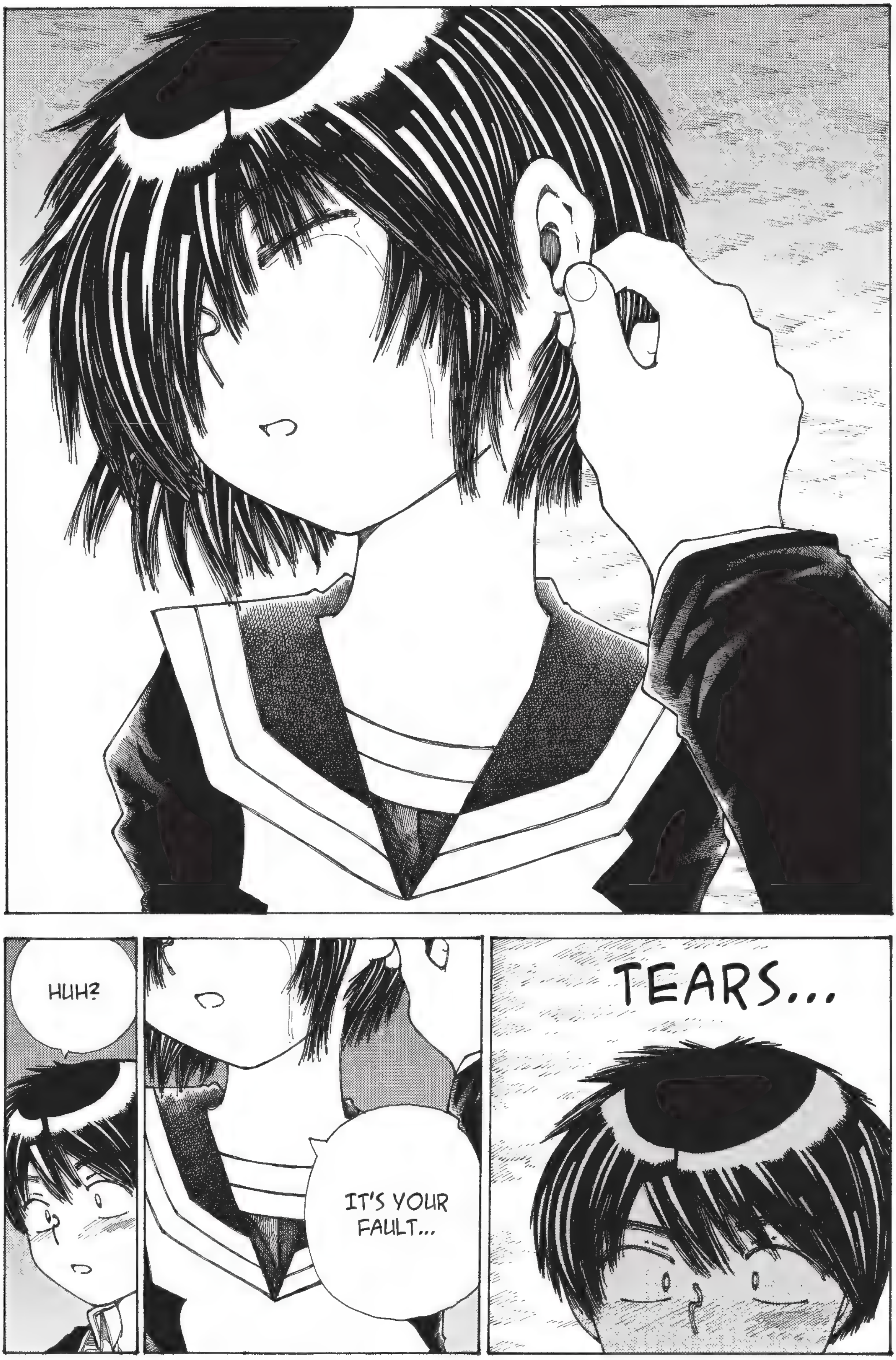

HIT ME.
IT DOESN'T MATTER IF YOU'RE MAD OR NOT.
THE FACT REMAINS
THAT I
MADE MY OWN GIRLFRIEND CRY.
SO PLEASE HIT ME.
I WON'T FEEL BETTER UNTIL YOU DO.
WE CAN DO OUR ROUTINE AFTER THAT.
MY SLAP...
IS PRETTY PAINFUL...

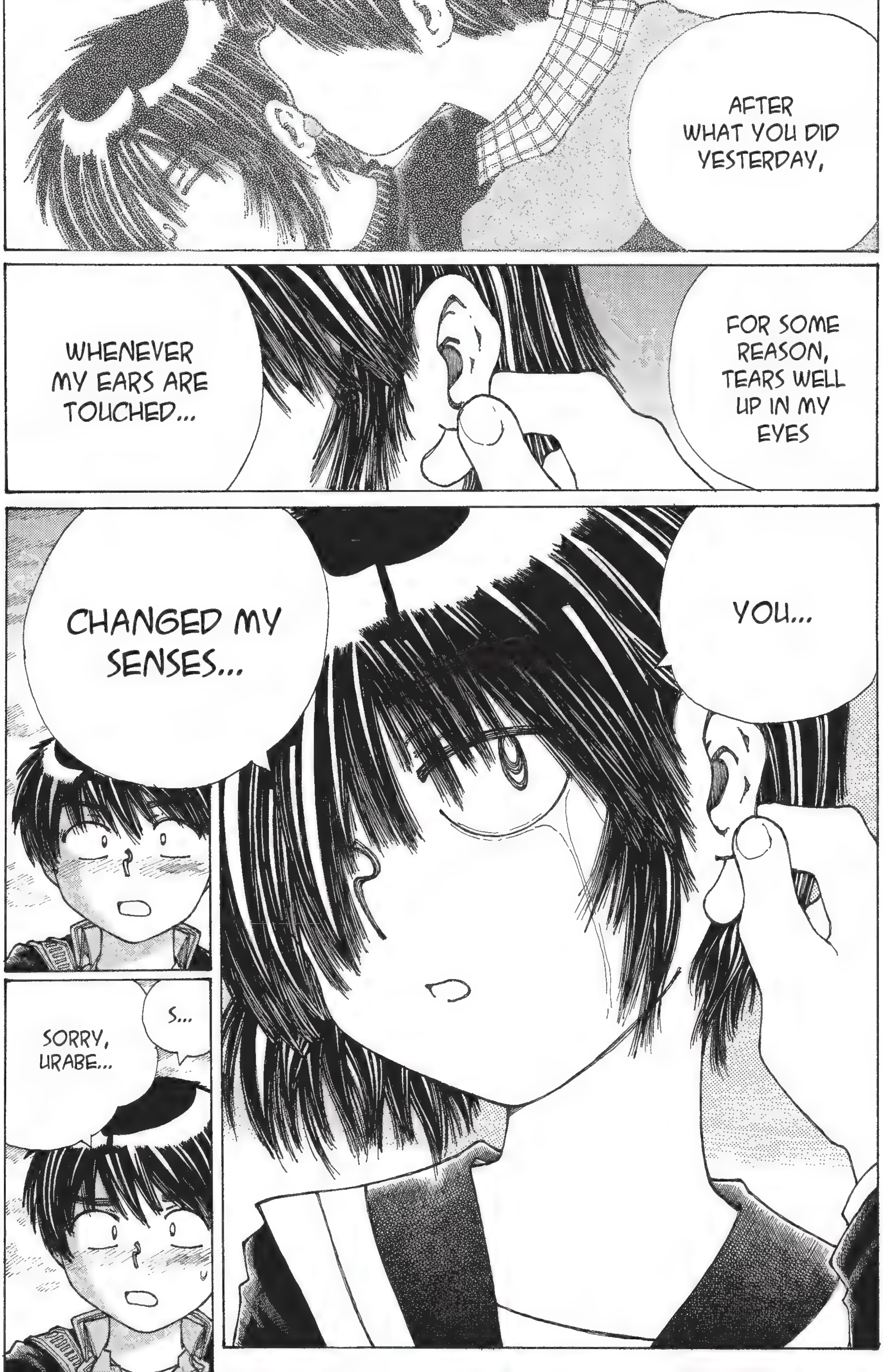

I DON'T CARE. GIVE ME YOUR BEST SHOT!
スッ
SWIP
SKY FISH
ビュッ
VWOOSH

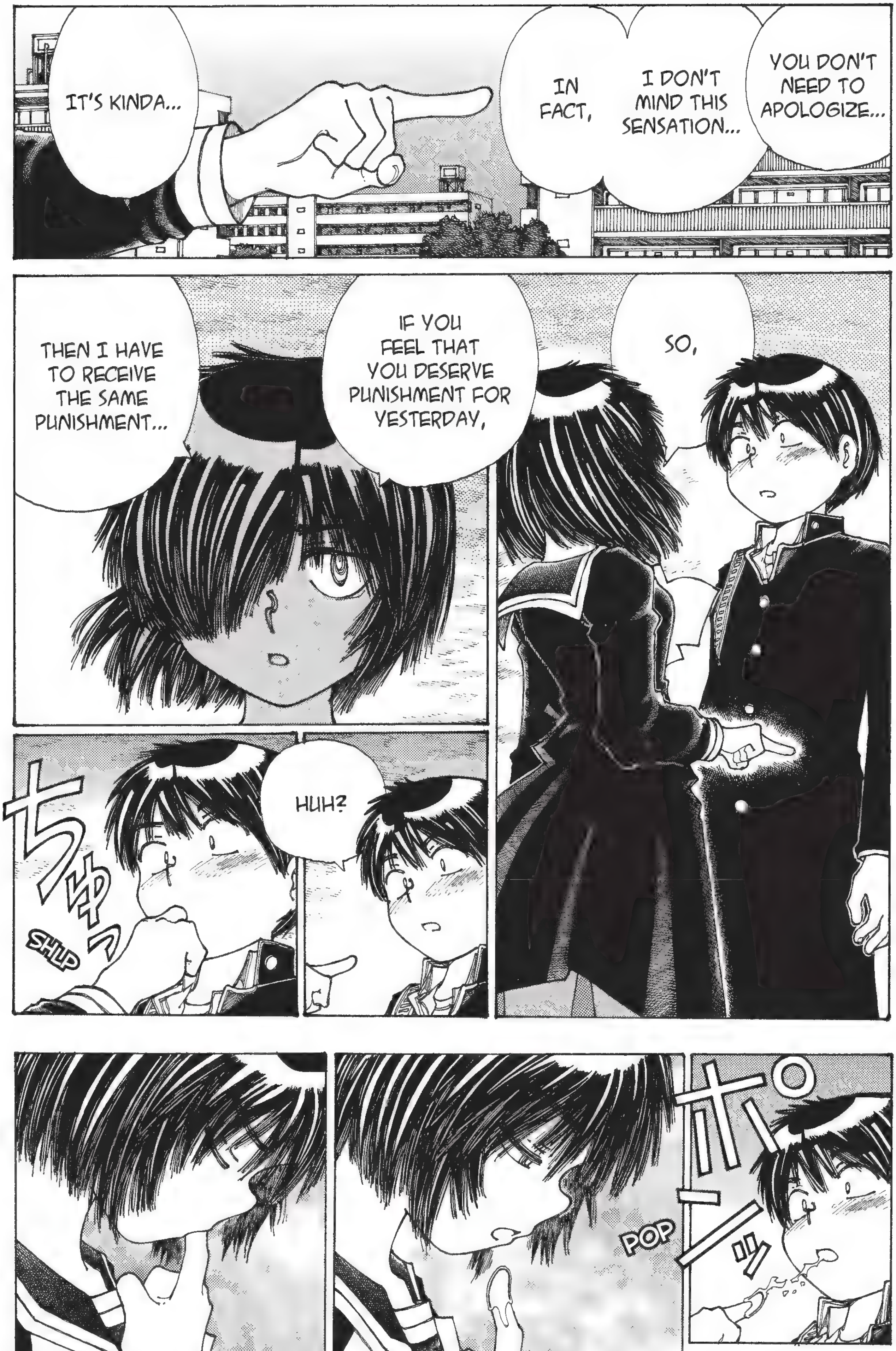

SLAP
TSUBAKI...
HUH?

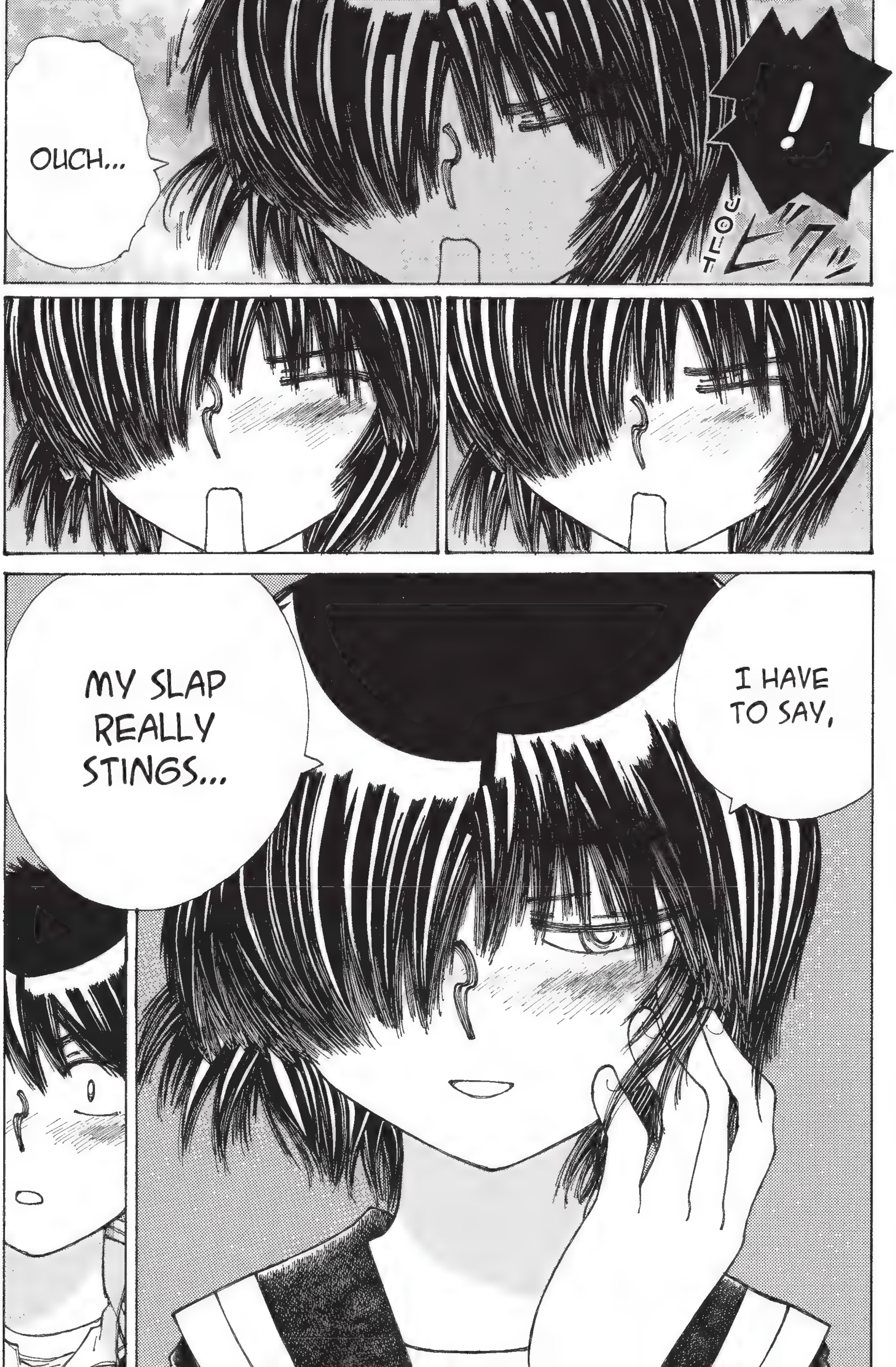

TOUCH
MY EAR...
HUH...?
YOUR EAR?
RIGHT NOW...
O...
OKAY...
SFF

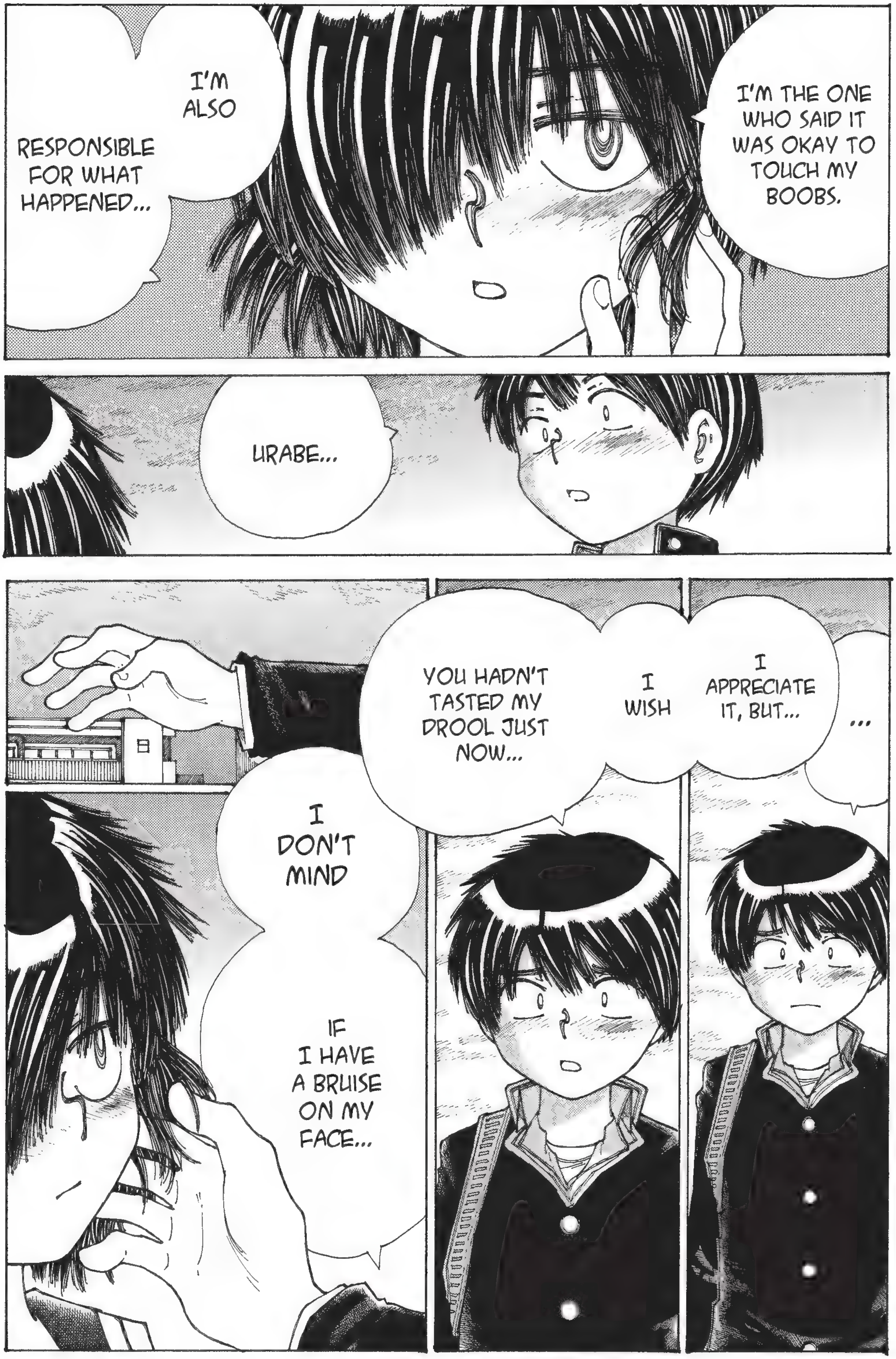

GRIP HARDER...
HUH?
OKAY...
SQUEEZE
AH...
DRIP...

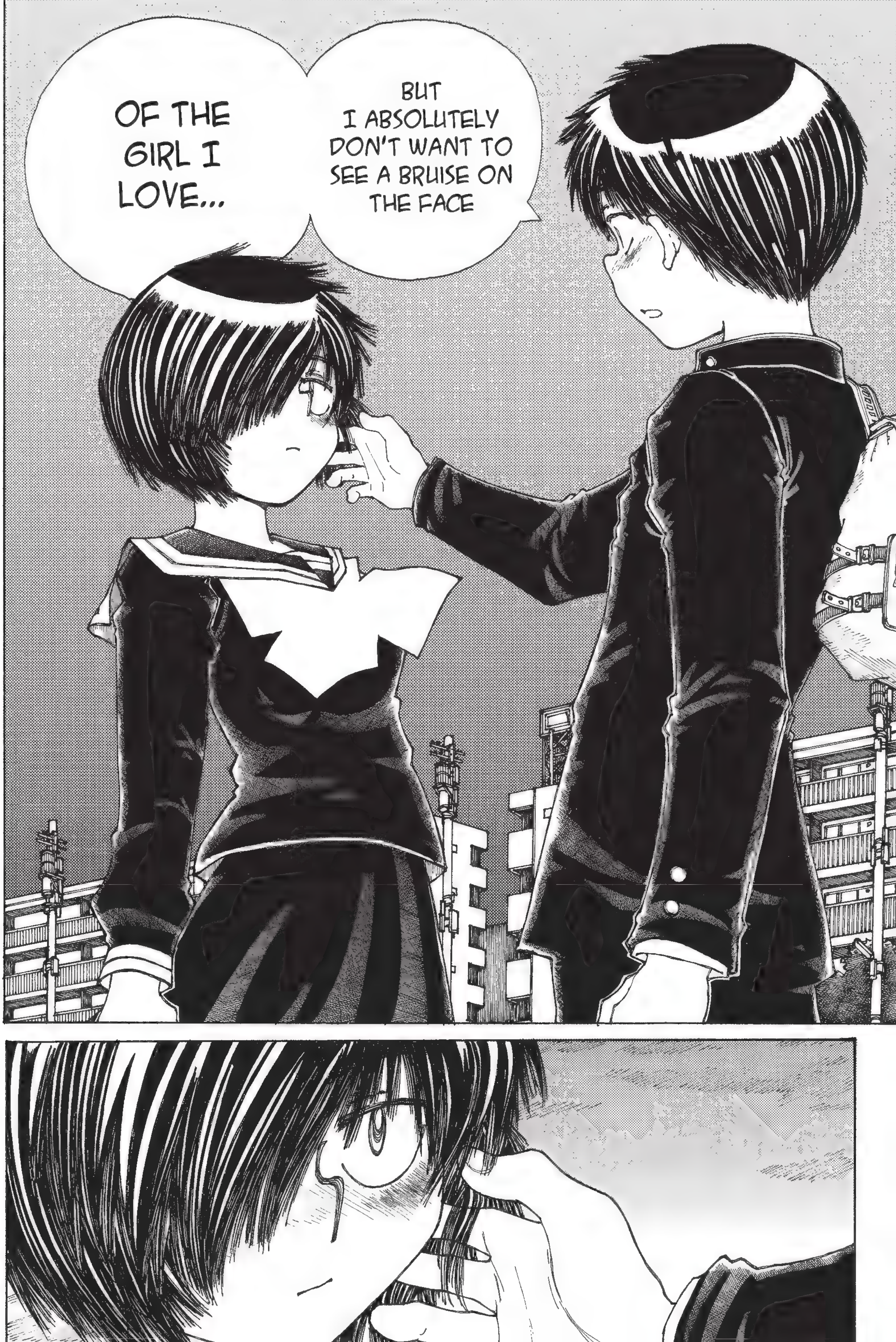

TEARS...
IT'S YOUR FAULT...
HUH?

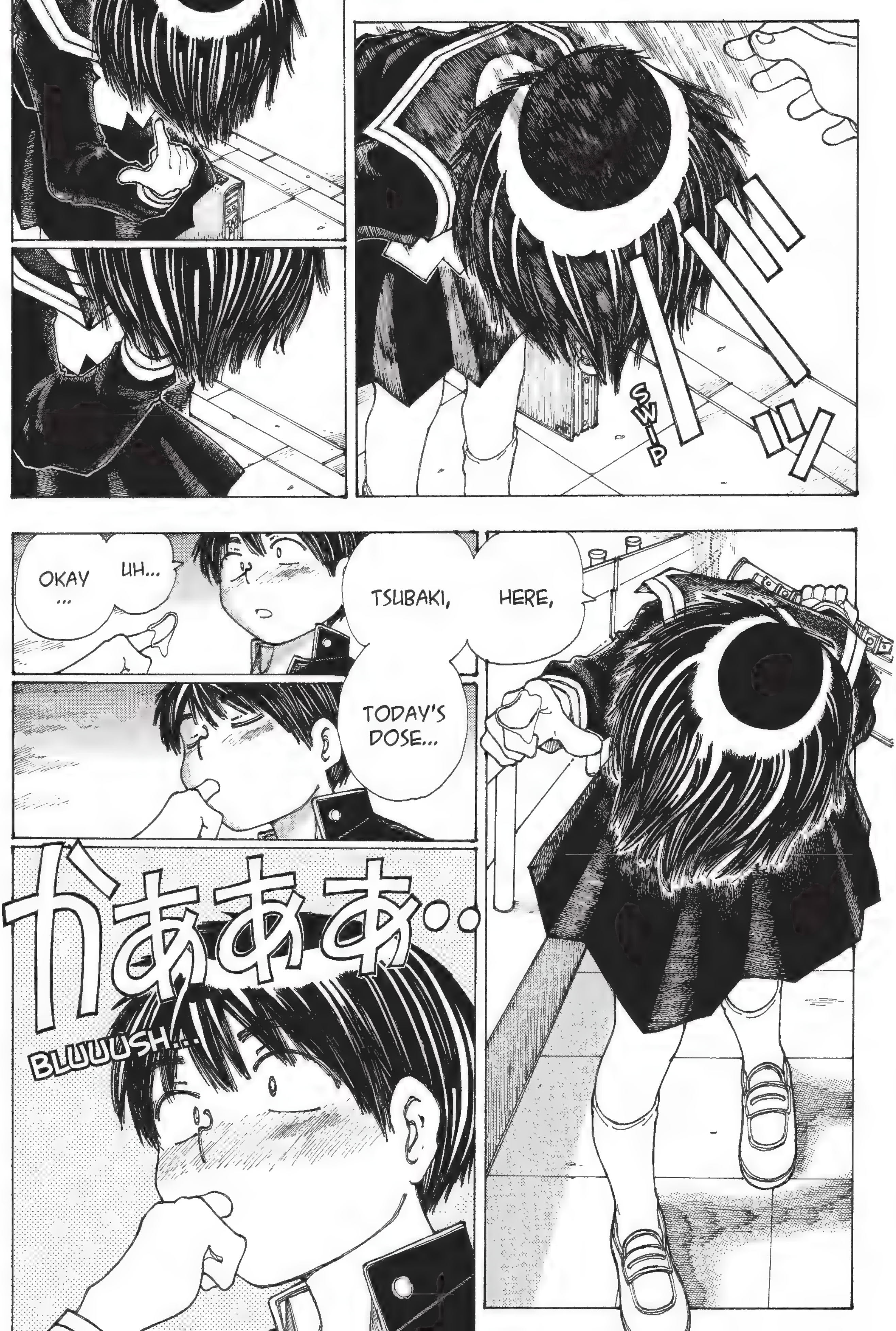

AFTER WHAT YOU DID YESTERDAY,
FOR SOME REASON, TEARS WELL UP IN MY EYES
WHENEVER MY EARS ARE TOUCHED...
YOU...
CHANGED MY SENSES...
S...
SORRY, URABE...

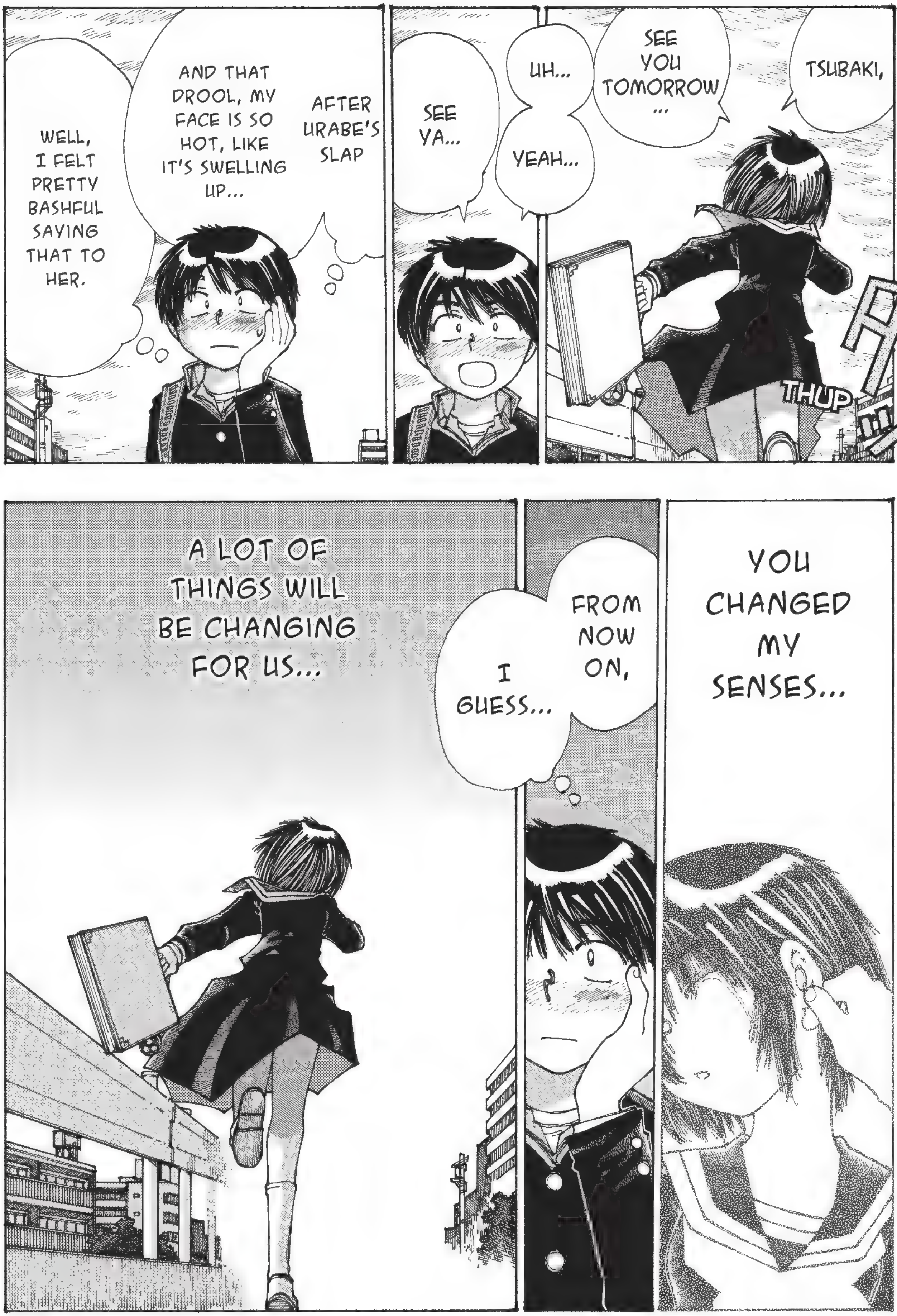

YOU DON'T NEED TO APOLOGIZE...
I DON'T MIND THIS SENSATION...
IN FACT,
IT'S KINDA...
SO,
IF YOU FEEL THAT YOU DESERVE PUNISHMENT FOR YESTERDAY,
THEN I HAVE TO RECEIVE THE SAME PUNISHMENT...
HUH?
ちゅっ
SHLP
ポーッ
POP


!
JOLT
OUCH...
I HAVE TO SAY,
MY SLAP REALLY STINGS...


I'M THE ONE WHO SAID IT WAS OKAY TO TOUCH MY BOOBS.
I'M ALSO
RESPONSIBLE FOR WHAT HAPPENED...
URABE...
...
I APPRECIATE IT, BUT...
I WISH
YOU HADN'T TASTED MY DROOL JUST NOW...
I DON'T MIND
IF I HAVE A BRUISE ON MY FACE...

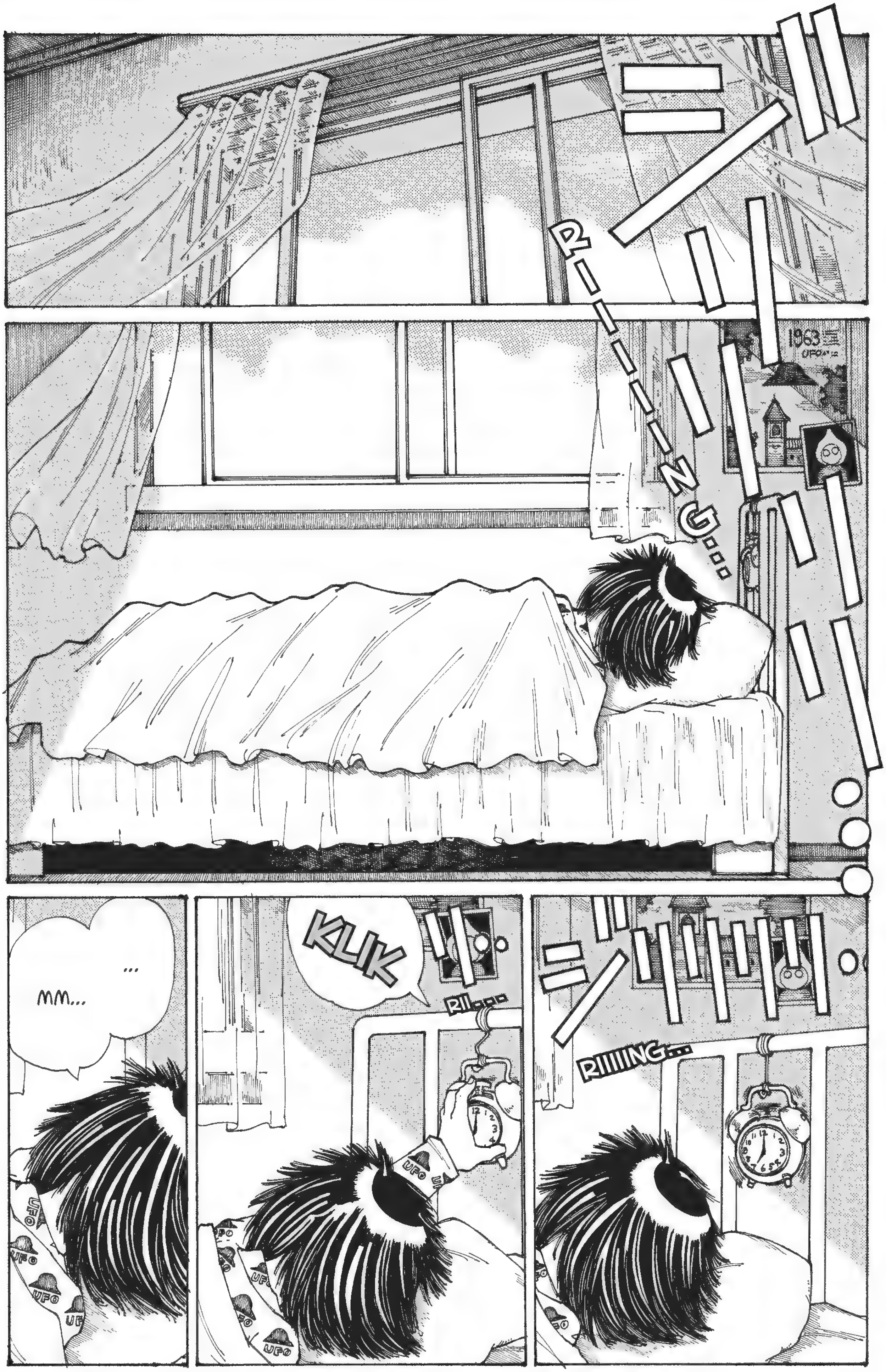

BUT I ABSOLUTELY DON'T WANT TO SEE A BRUISE ON THE FACE
OF THE GIRL I LOVE...

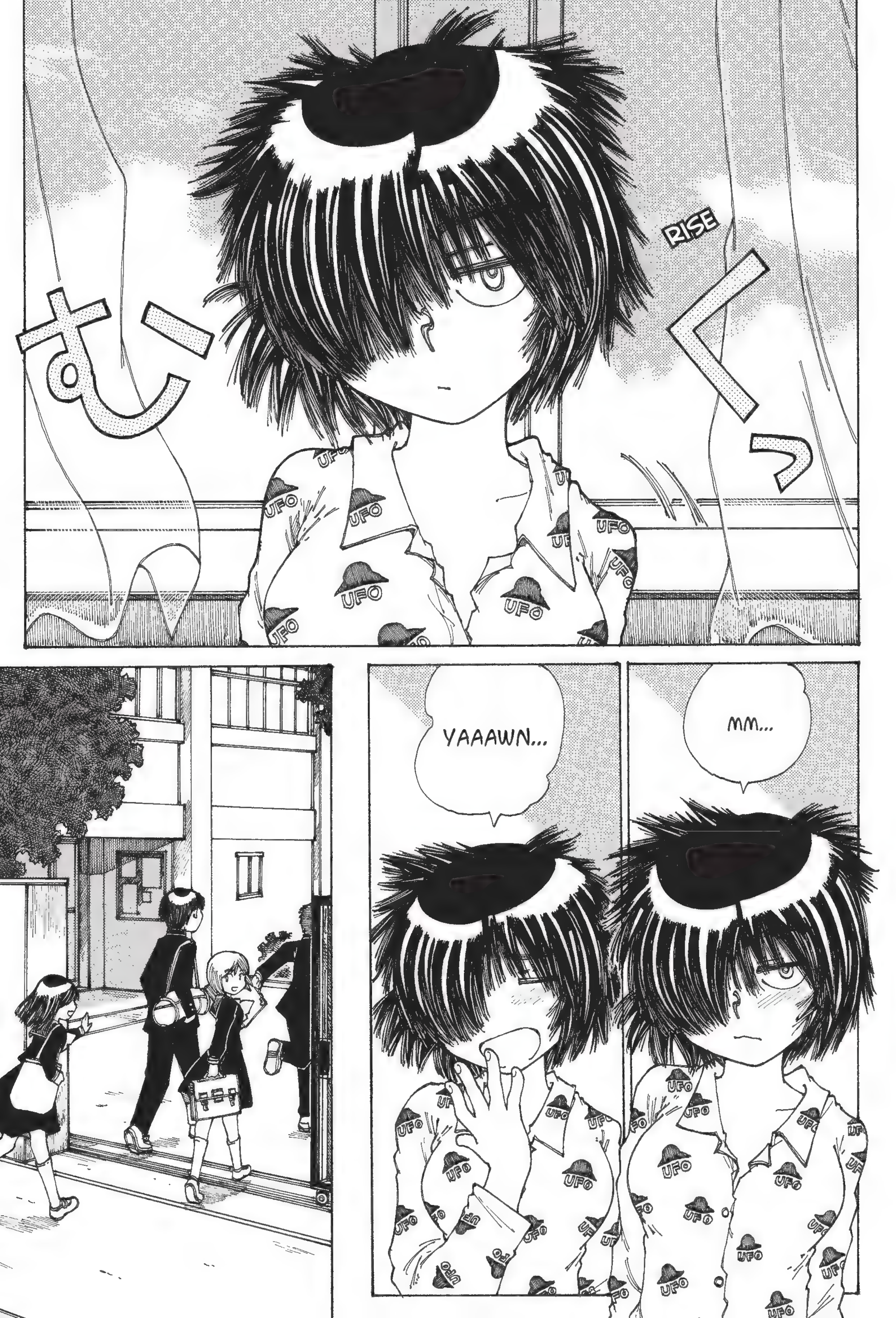

SWIP
TSUBAKI,
HERE,
TODAY'S DOSE...
UH...
OKAY ...
かあああ‥
BLUUUSH...

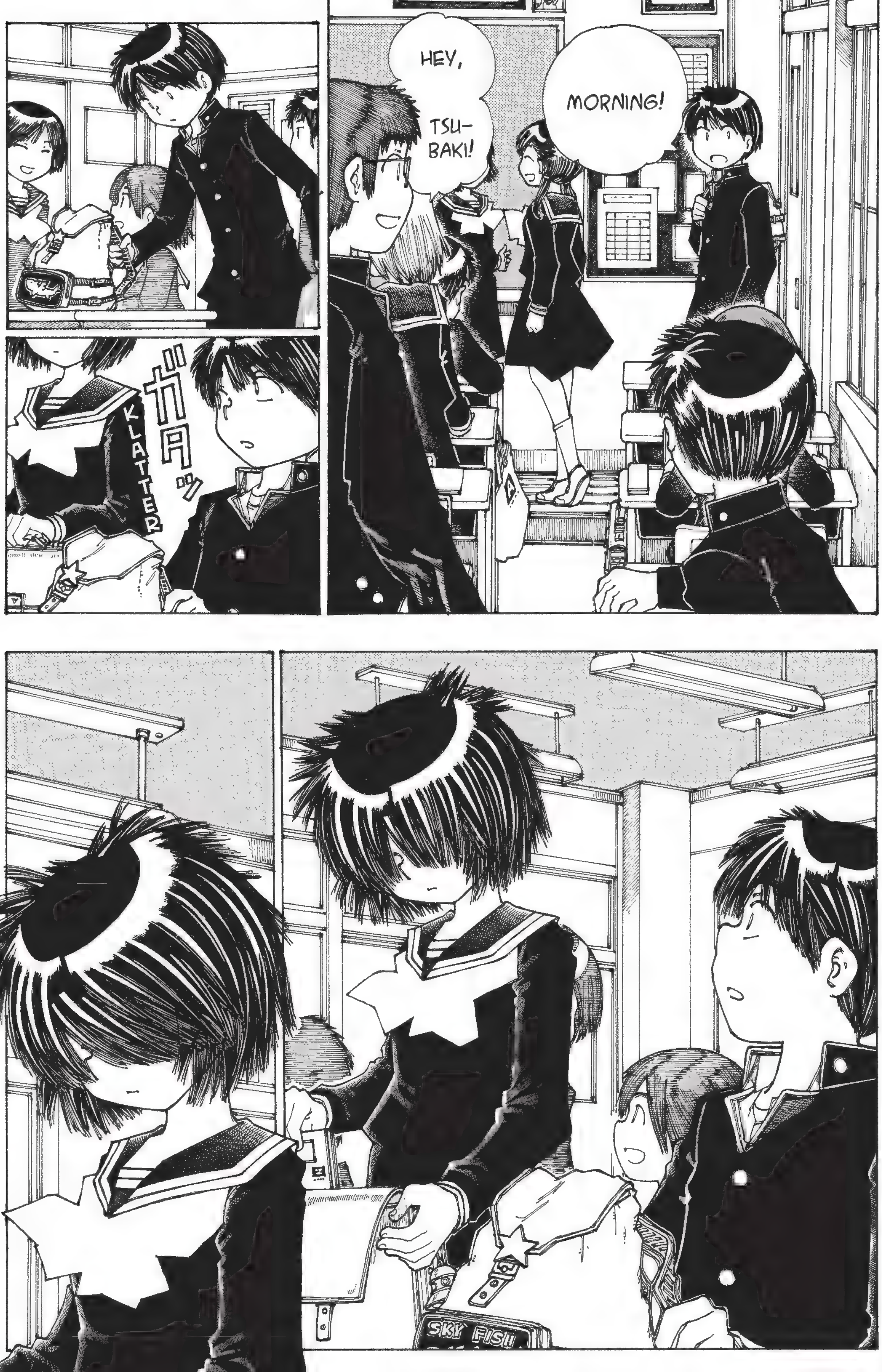

TSUBAKI,
SEE YOU TOMORROW...
THUP
UH...
YEAH...
SEE YA...
AFTER URABE'S SLAP
AND THAT DROOL, MY FACE IS SO HOT, LIKE IT'S SWELLING UP...
WELL, I FELT PRETTY BASHFUL SAYING THAT TO HER.
YOU CHANGED MY SENSES...
FROM NOW ON,
I GUESS...
A LOT OF THINGS WILL BE CHANGING FOR US...

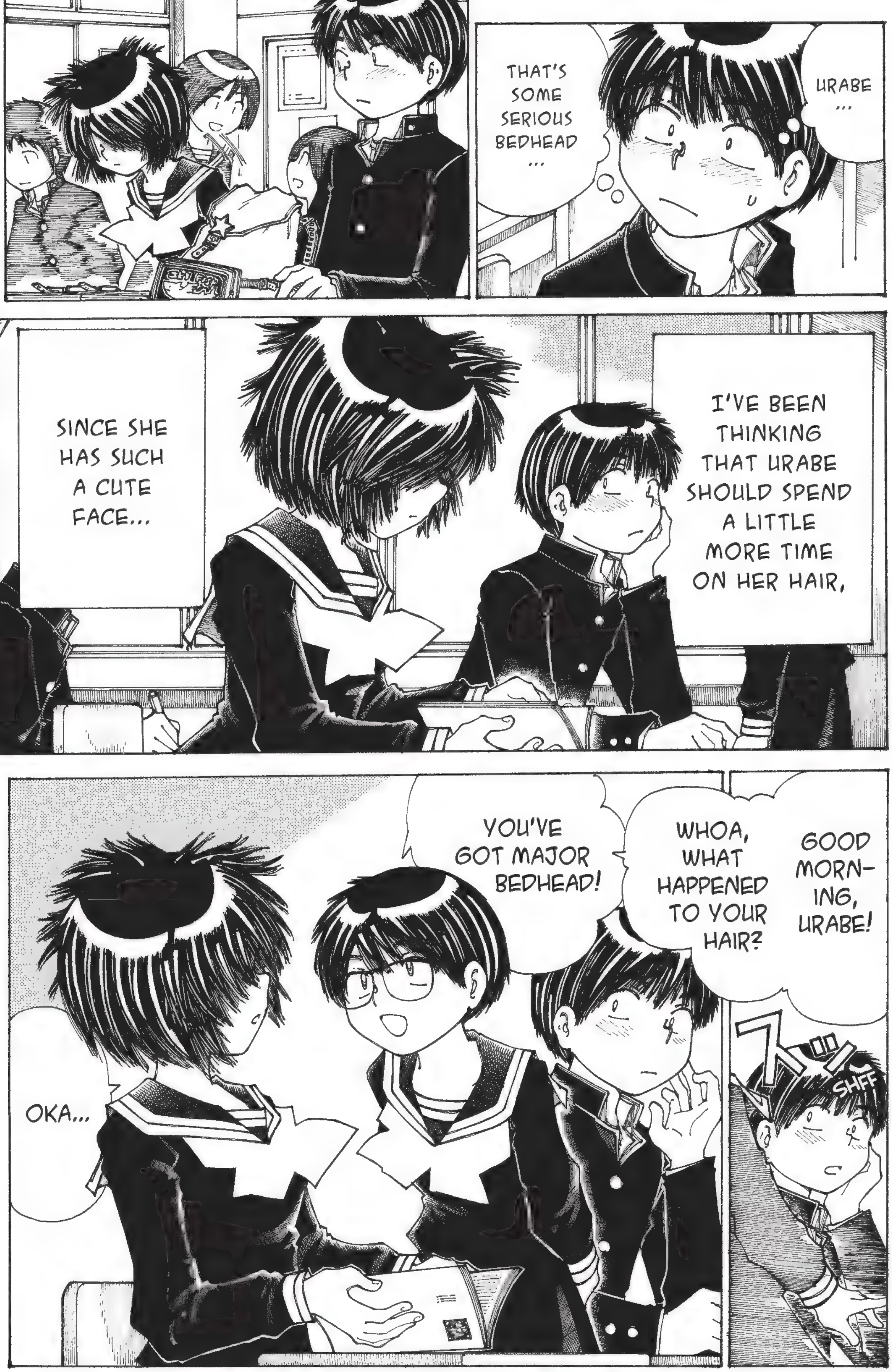
END OF CHAPTER 22

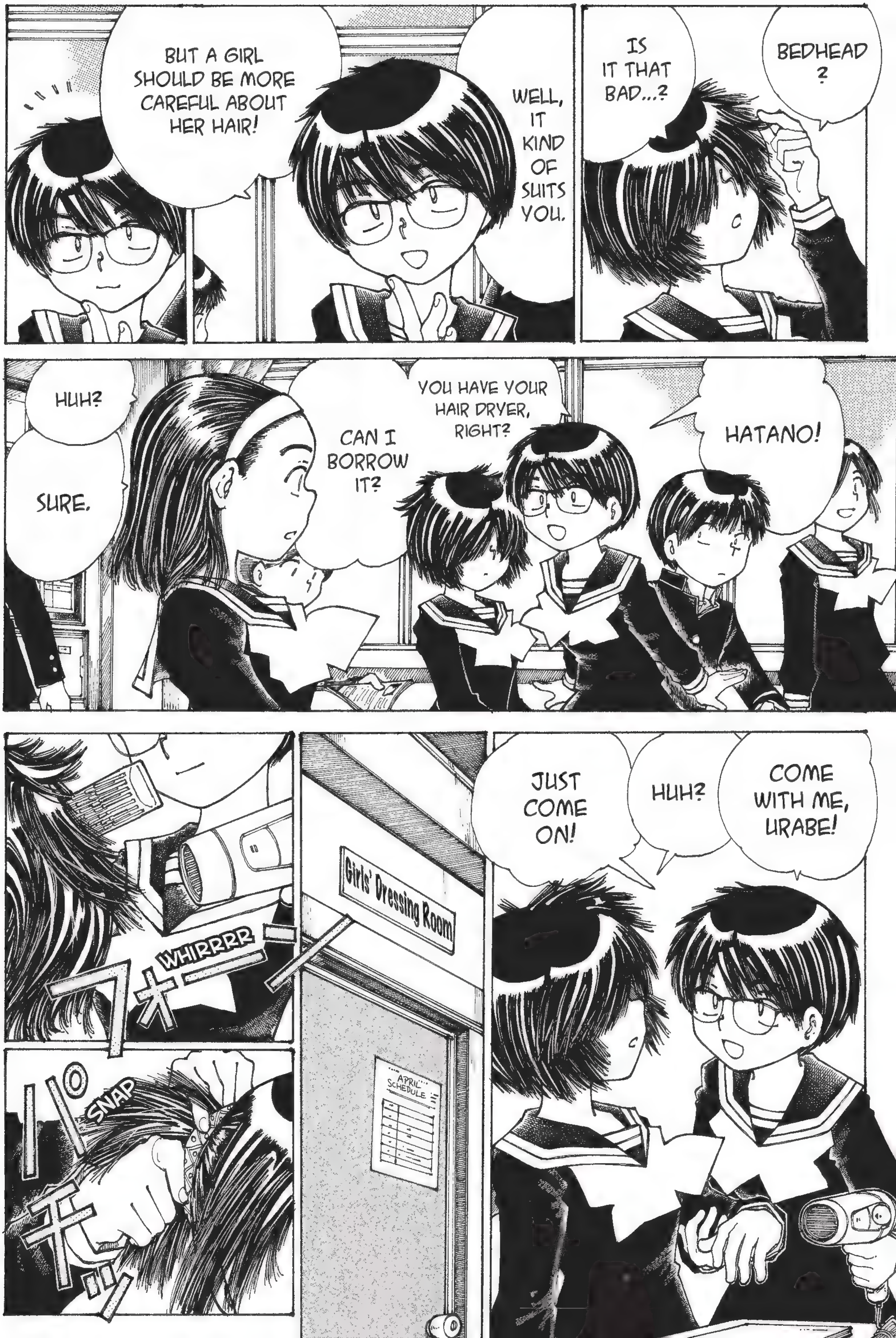
CHAPTER 23: MYSTERIOUS "IT'S KINDA... I DUNNO..."

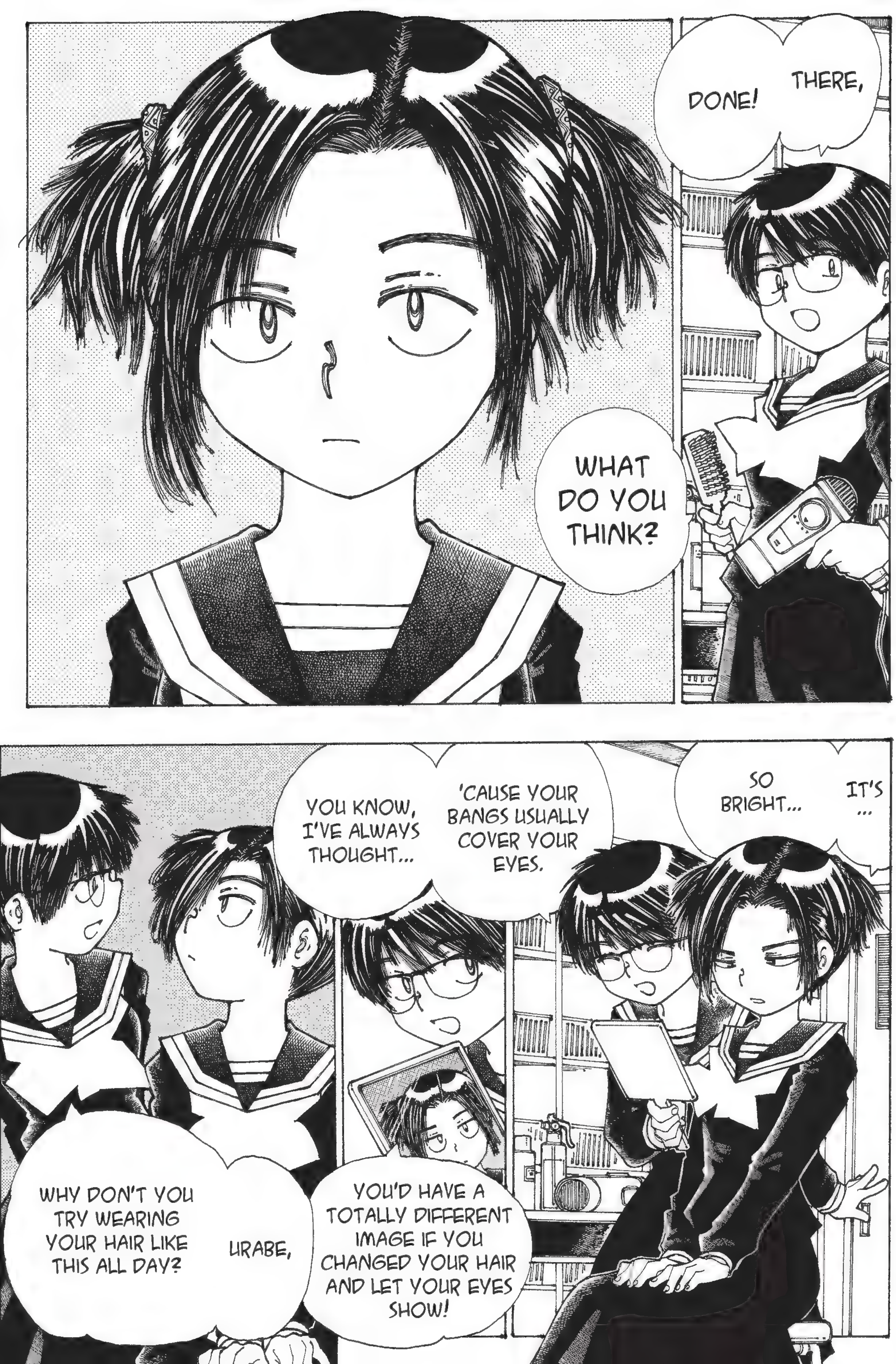

RI-I-I-I-I-N-G...
1963
RIIIING...
KLIK
RII...
...
MM...

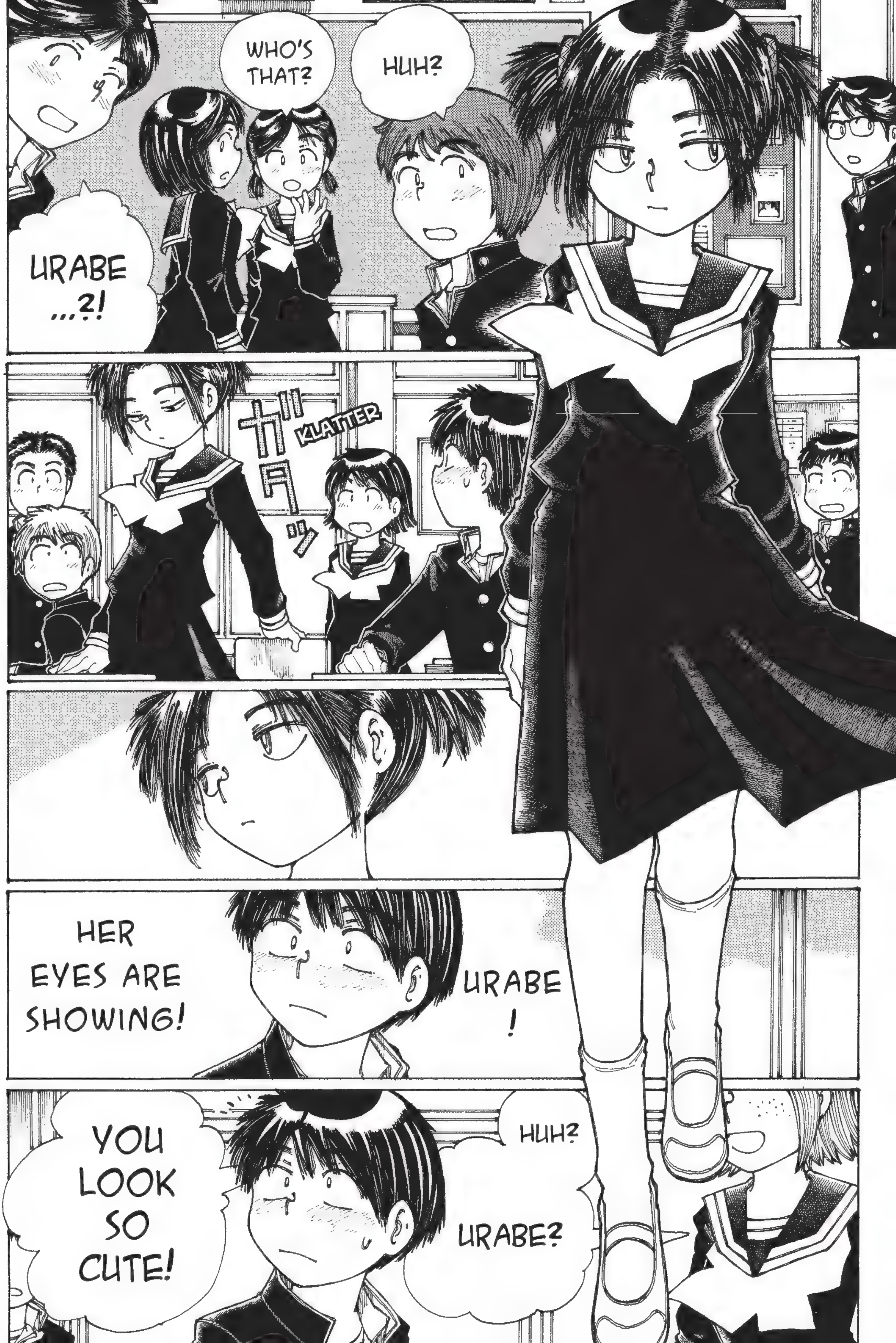

むくっ
RISE
MM...
YAAAWN...

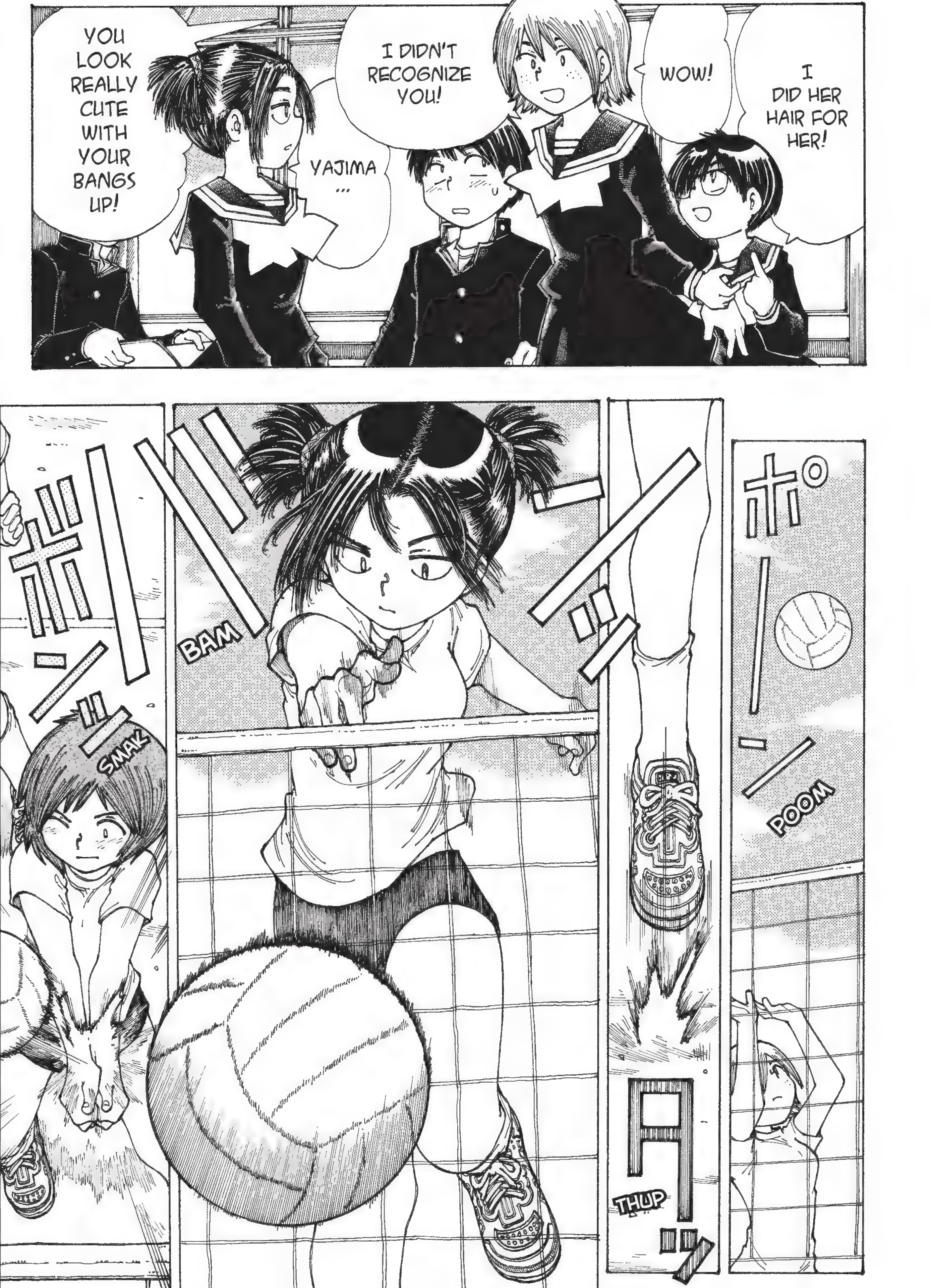

MORNING!
HEY, TSU-BAKI!
ガタッ
KLATTER
SKY FISH

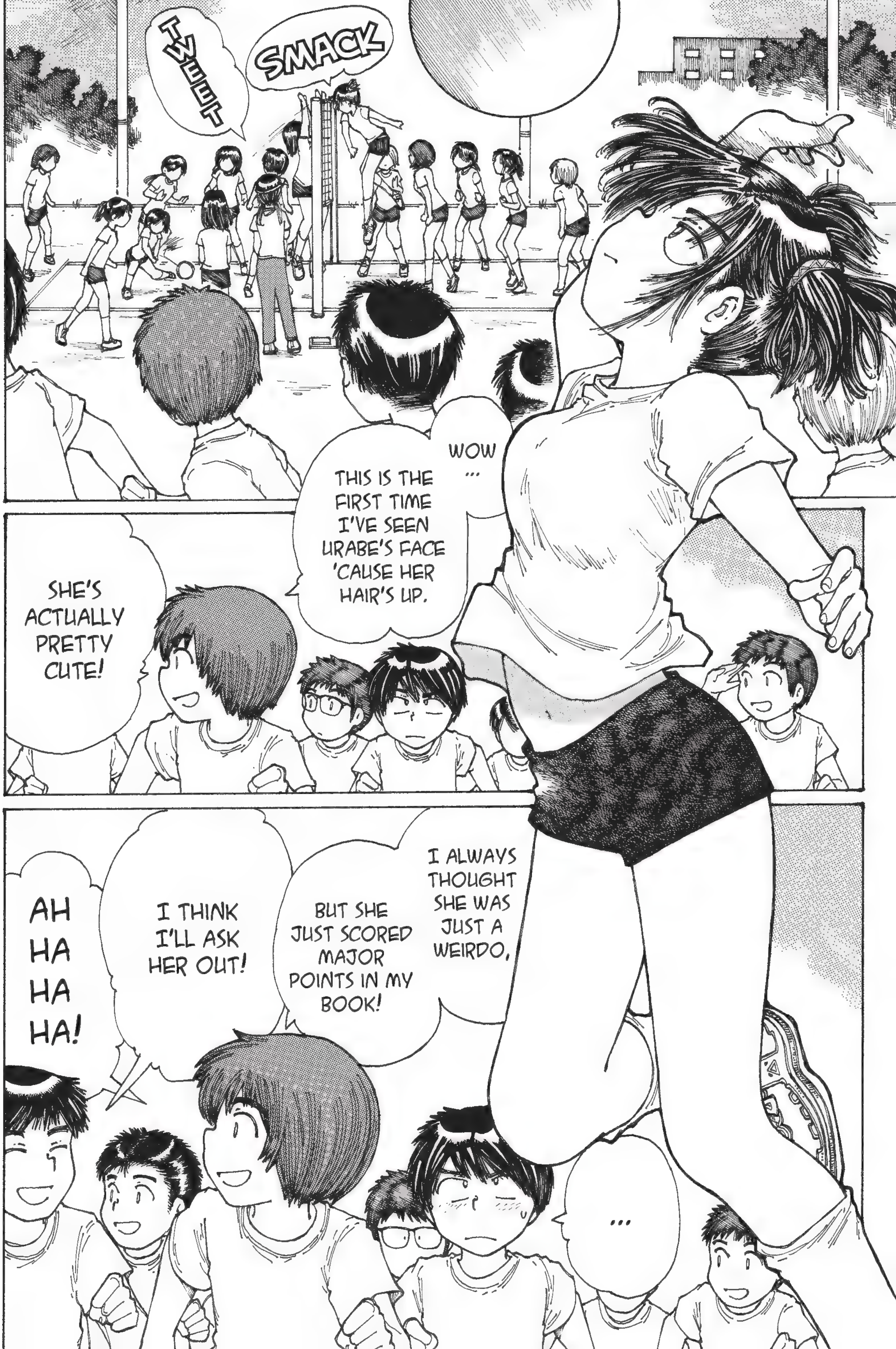

URABE...
THAT'S SOME SERIOUS BEDHEAD...
I'VE BEEN THINKING THAT URABE SHOULD SPEND A LITTLE MORE TIME ON HER HAIR,
SINCE SHE HAS SUCH A CUTE FACE...
GOOD MORNING, URABE!
SHFF
WHOA, WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR HAIR?
YOU'VE GOT MAJOR BEDHEAD!
OKA...

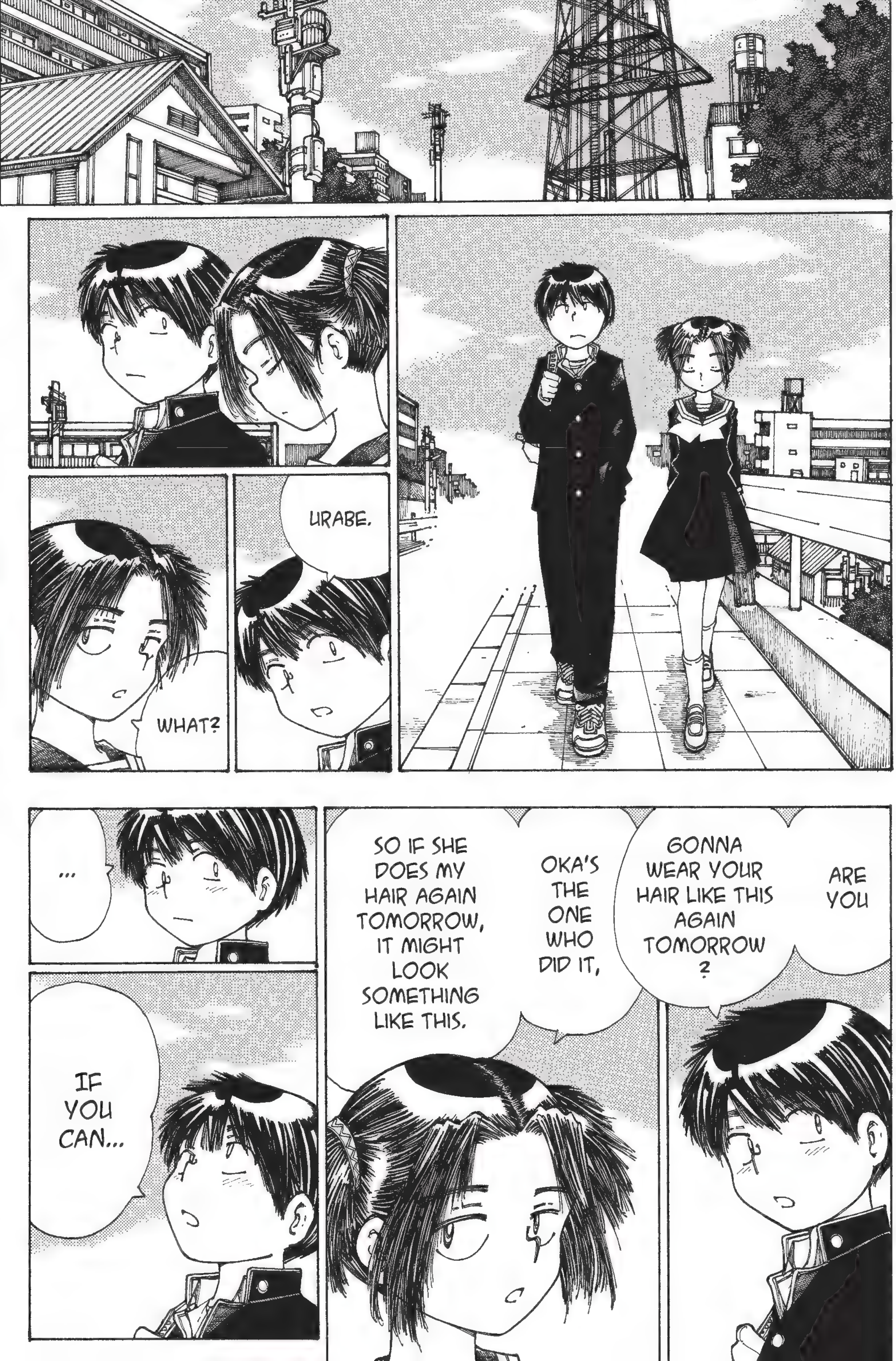

BEDHEAD?
IS IT THAT BAD...?
WELL, IT KIND OF SUITS YOU.
BUT A GIRL SHOULD BE MORE CAREFUL ABOUT HER HAIR!
HATANO!
YOU HAVE YOUR HAIR DRYER, RIGHT?
CAN I BORROW IT?
HUH?
SURE.
COME WITH ME, URABE!
HUH?
JUST COME ON!
Girls' Dressing Room
APRIL SCHEDULE
フォー
WHIRRRR
パチッ
SNAP

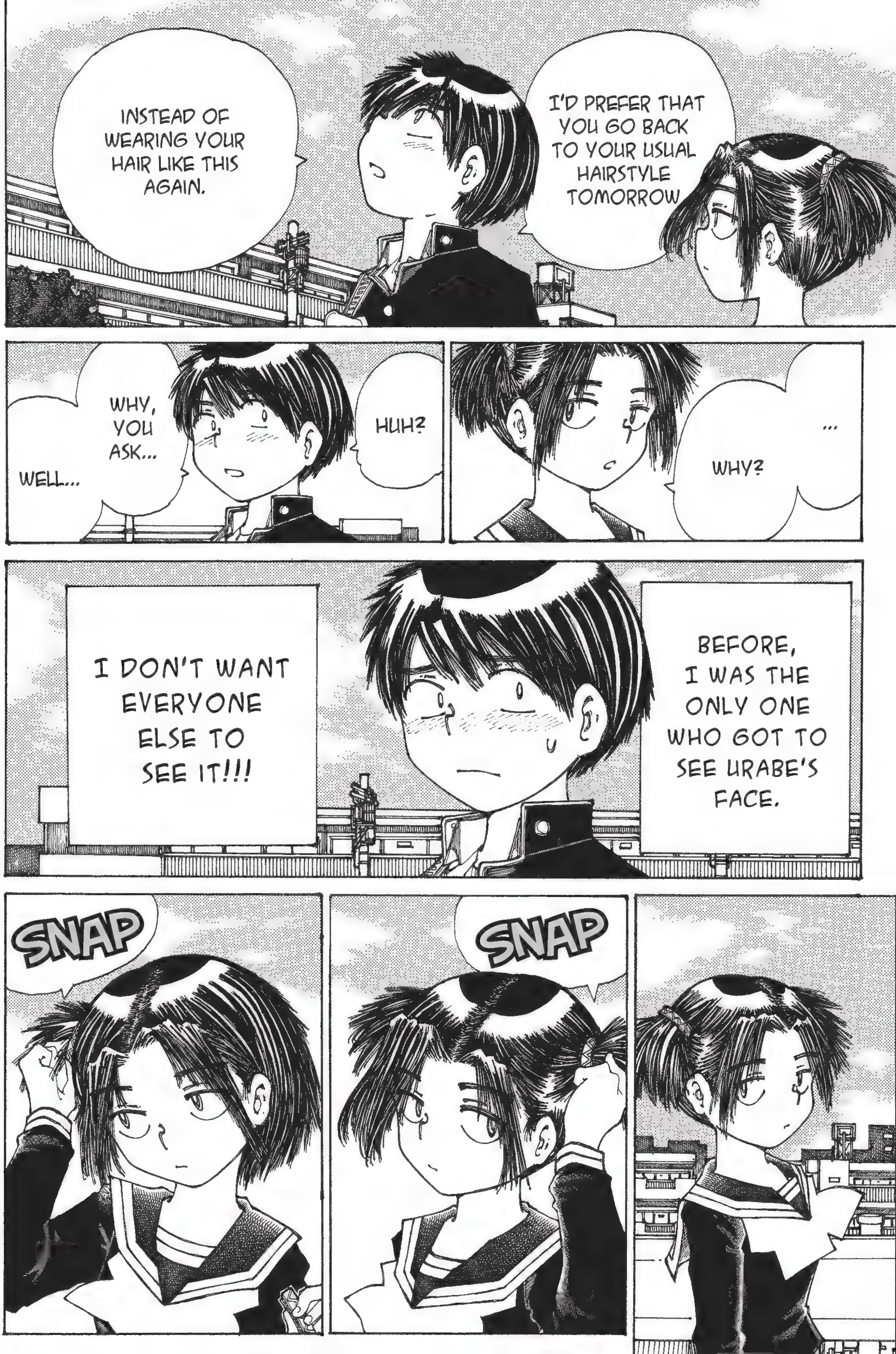

THERE, DONE!
WHAT DO YOU THINK?
IT'S ...
SO BRIGHT...
'CAUSE YOUR BANGS USUALLY COVER YOUR EYES.
YOU KNOW, I'VE ALWAYS THOUGHT...
YOU'D HAVE A TOTALLY DIFFERENT IMAGE IF YOU CHANGED YOUR HAIR AND LET YOUR EYES SHOW!
URABE,
WHY DON'T YOU TRY WEARING YOUR HAIR LIKE THIS ALL DAY?

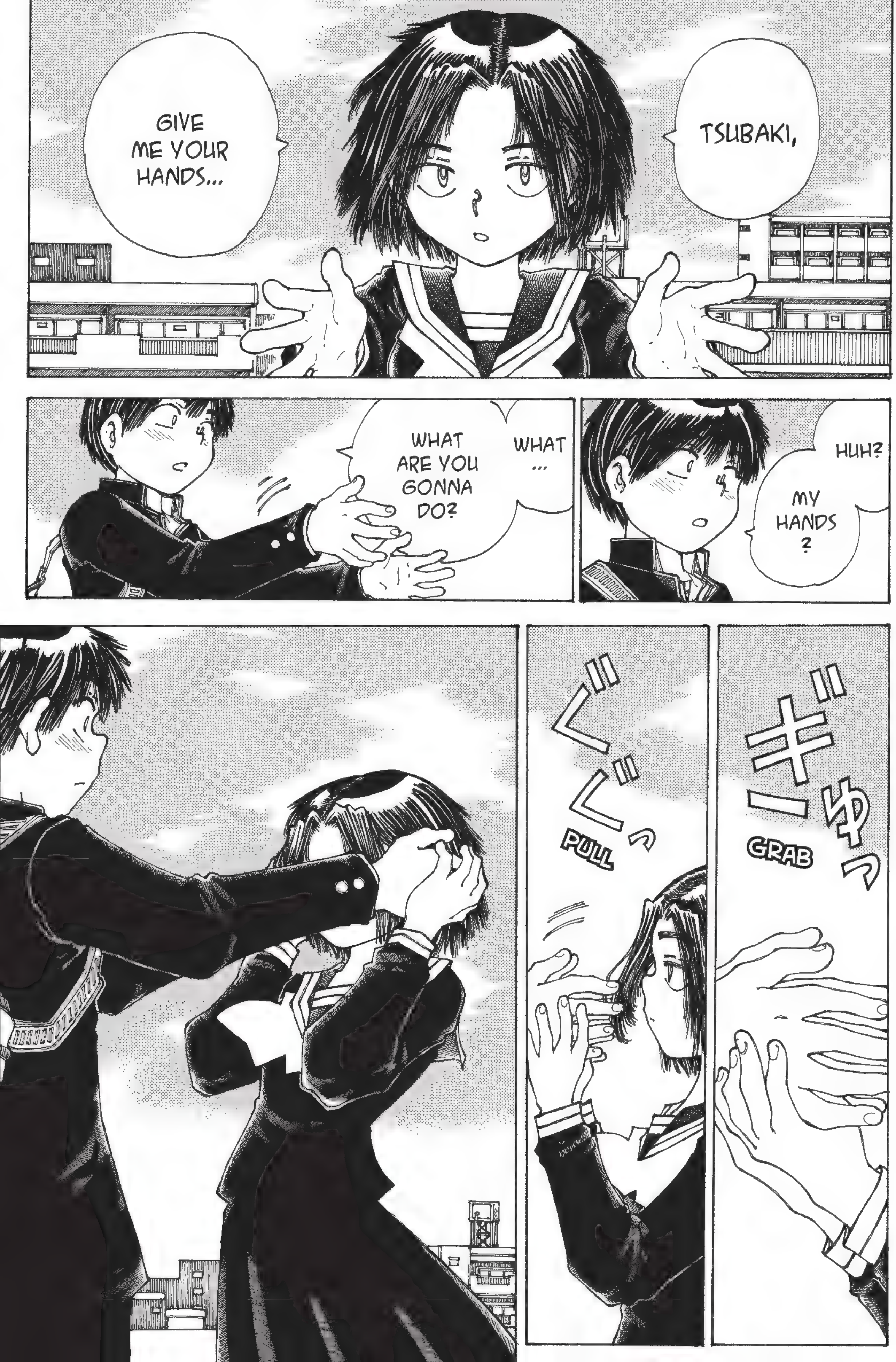

HUH?
WHO'S THAT?
URABE ...?!
ガラッ
KLATTER
URABE !
HER EYES ARE SHOWING!
HUH?
URABE?
YOU LOOK SO CUTE!

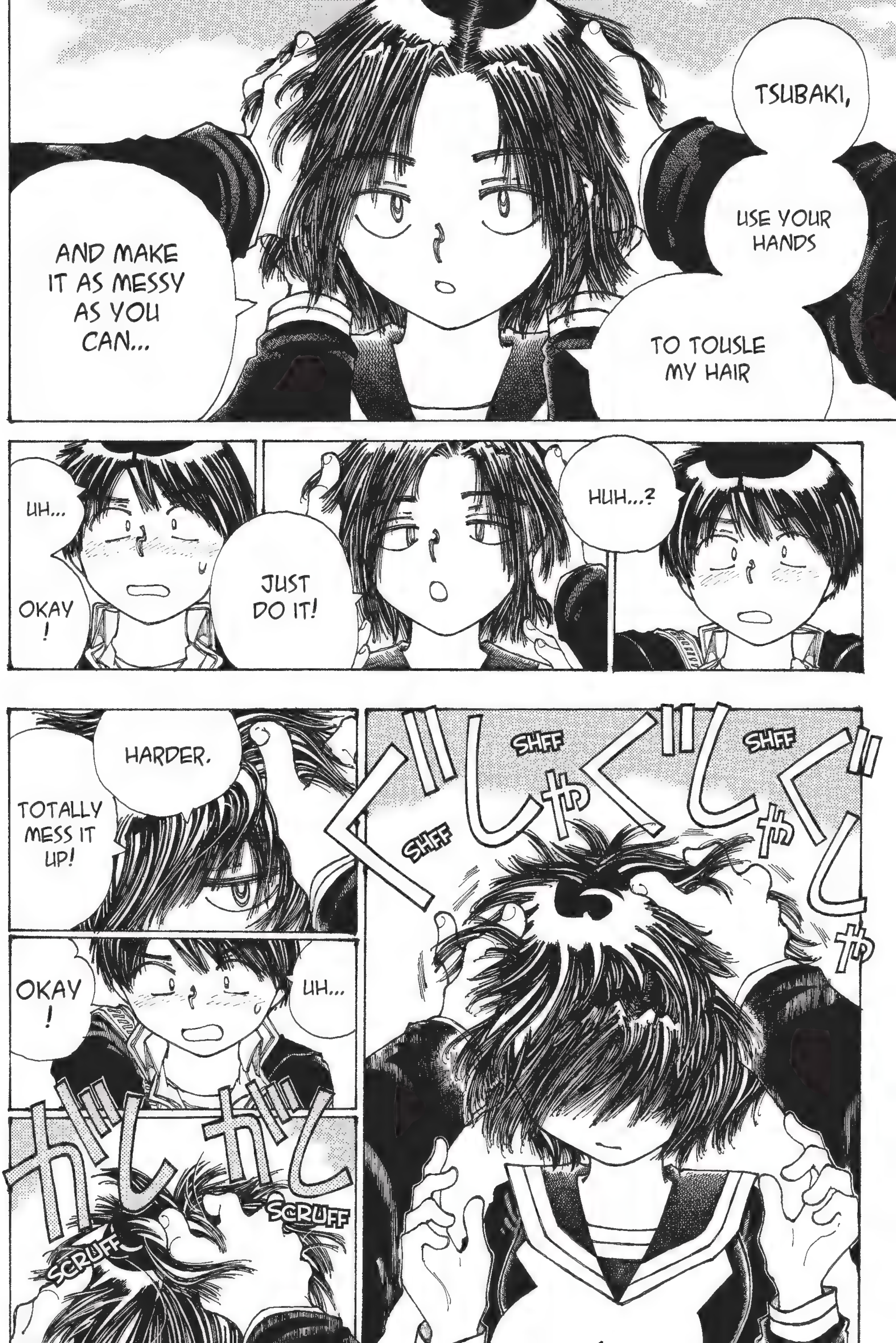

I DID HER HAIR FOR HER!
WOW!
I DIDN'T RECOGNIZE YOU!
YAJIMA ...
YOU LOOK REALLY CUTE WITH YOUR BANGS UP!
ポーン
POOM
THUP
BAM
SMAK

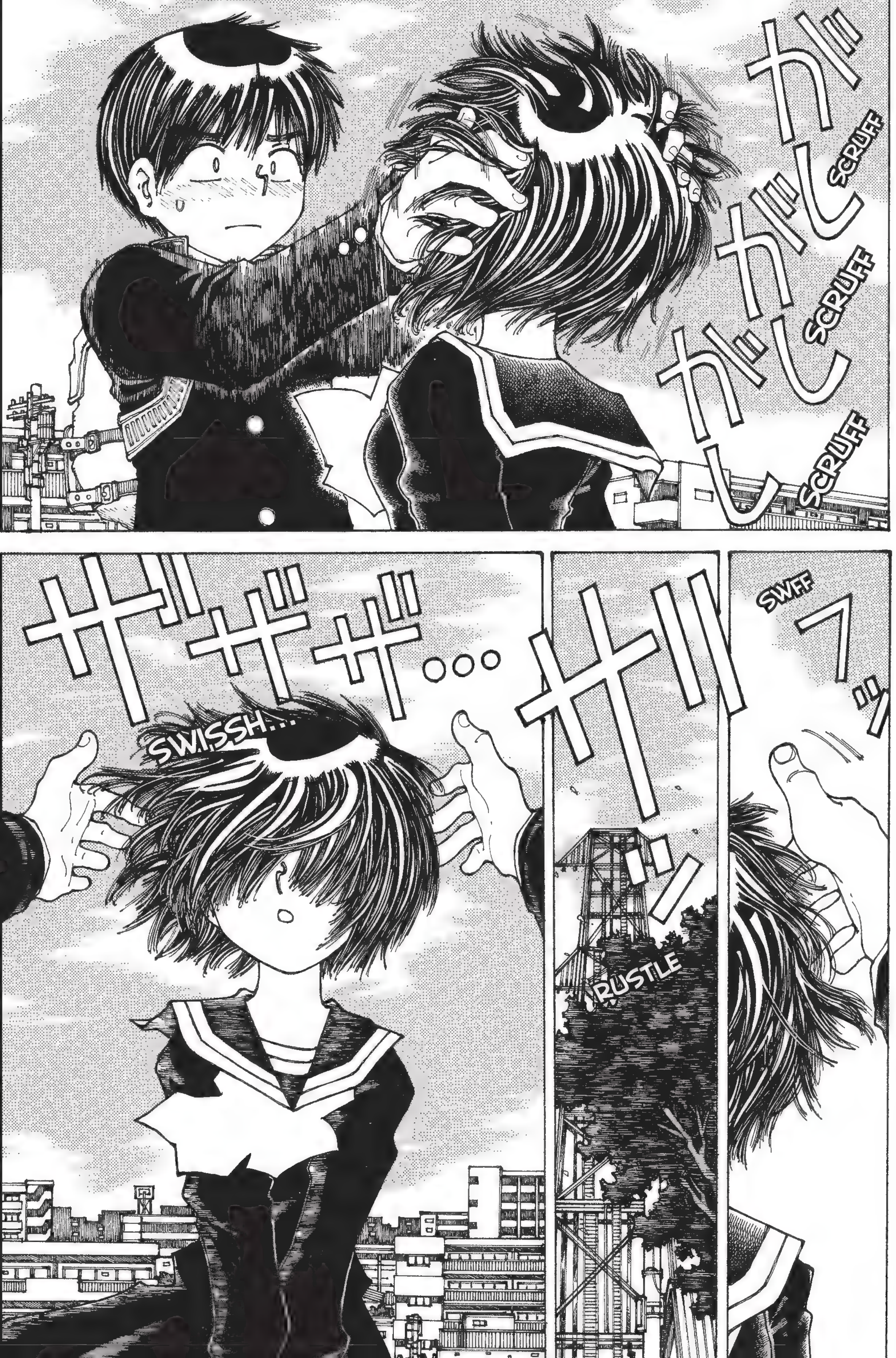

SMACK
TWEET
WOW ...
THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE SEEN URABE'S FACE 'CAUSE HER HAIR'S UP.
SHE'S ACTUALLY PRETTY CUTE!
I ALWAYS THOUGHT SHE WAS JUST A WEIRDO,
BUT SHE JUST SCORED MAJOR POINTS IN MY BOOK!
I THINK I'LL ASK HER OUT!
AH HA HA HA HA!
...

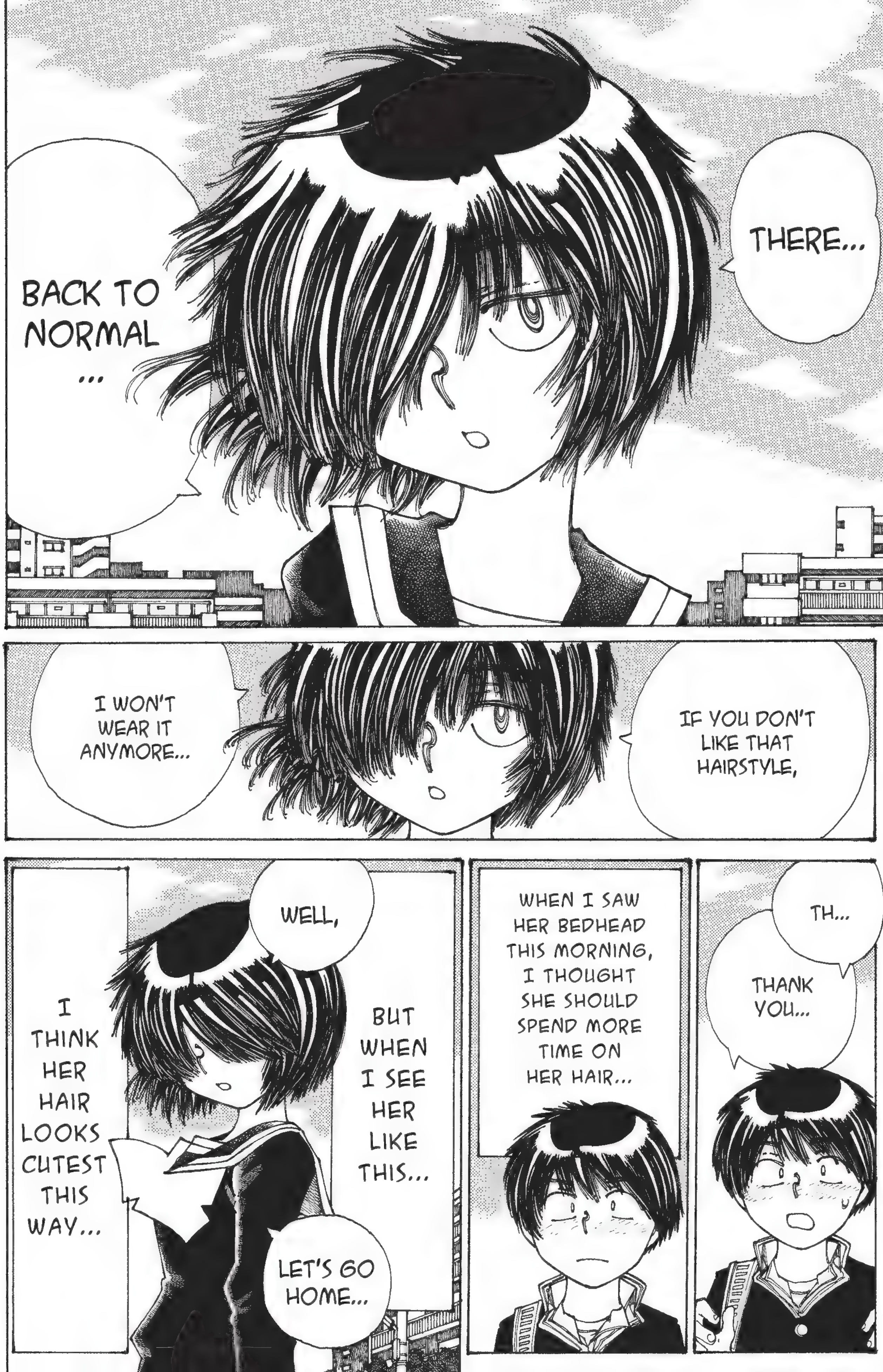

URABE.
WHAT?
ARE YOU GONNA WEAR YOUR HAIR LIKE THIS AGAIN TOMORROW?
OKA'S THE ONE WHO DID IT,
SO IF SHE DOES MY HAIR AGAIN TOMORROW, IT MIGHT LOOK SOMETHING LIKE THIS.
...
IF YOU CAN...

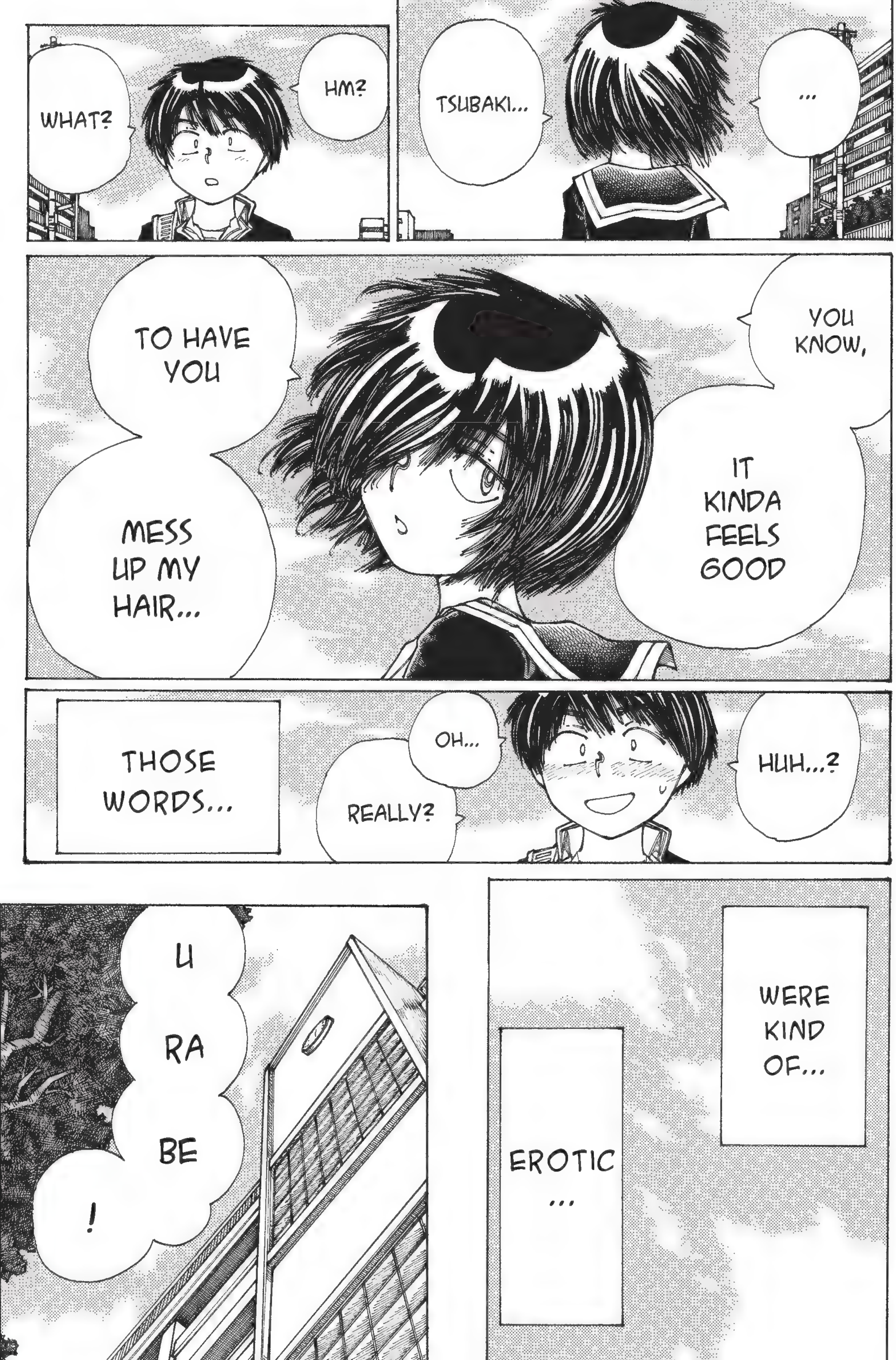

I'D PREFER THAT YOU GO BACK TO YOUR USUAL HAIRSTYLE TOMORROW
INSTEAD OF WEARING YOUR HAIR LIKE THIS AGAIN.
...
WHY?
HUH?
WHY, YOU ASK...
WELL...
BEFORE, I WAS THE ONLY ONE WHO GOT TO SEE URABE'S FACE.
I DON'T WANT EVERYONE ELSE TO SEE IT!!!
SNAP
SNAP

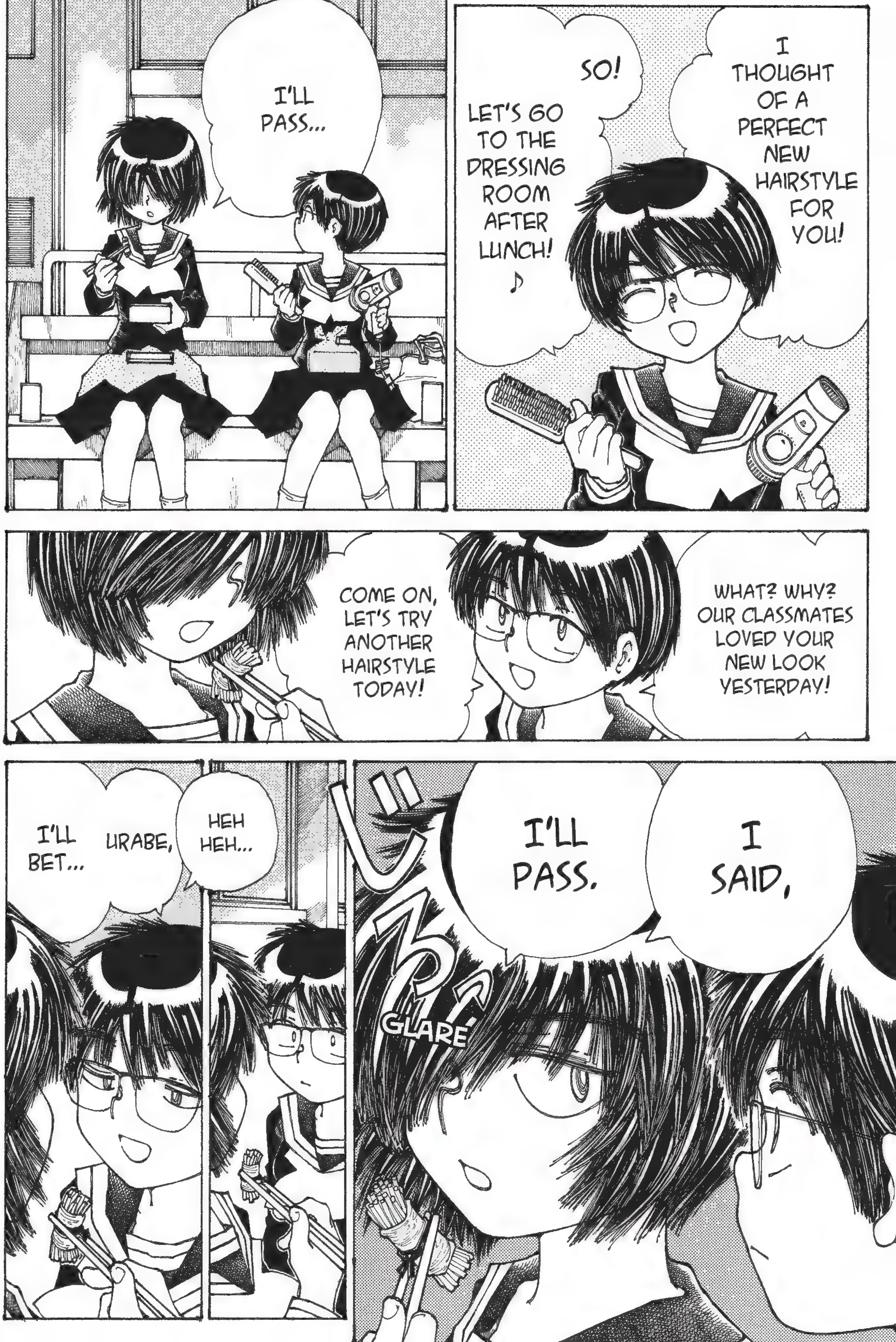

TSUBAKI,
GIVE ME YOUR HANDS...
HUH?
MY HANDS?
WHAT...
WHAT ARE YOU GONNA DO?
ぎゅっ
GRAB
ぐぐっ
PULL

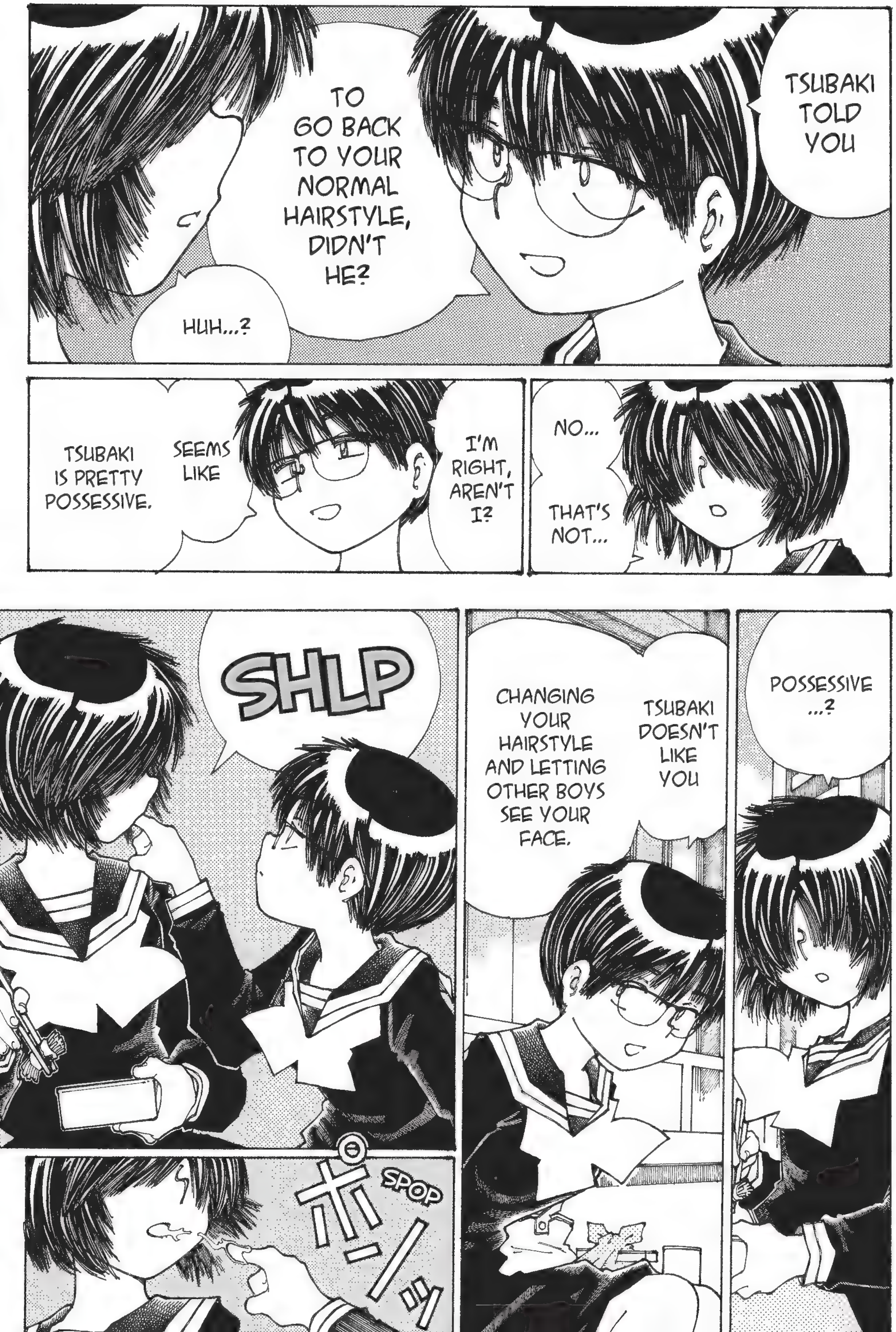

TSUBAKI,
USE YOUR HANDS
TO TOUSLE MY HAIR
AND MAKE IT AS MESSY AS YOU CAN...
HUH...?
JUST DO IT!
UH...
OKAY!
ぐしゃぐしゃぐしゃ
SHFF
SHFF
SHFF
HARDER.
TOTALLY MESS IT UP!
UH...
OKAY!
がしがし
SCRUFF
SCRUFF

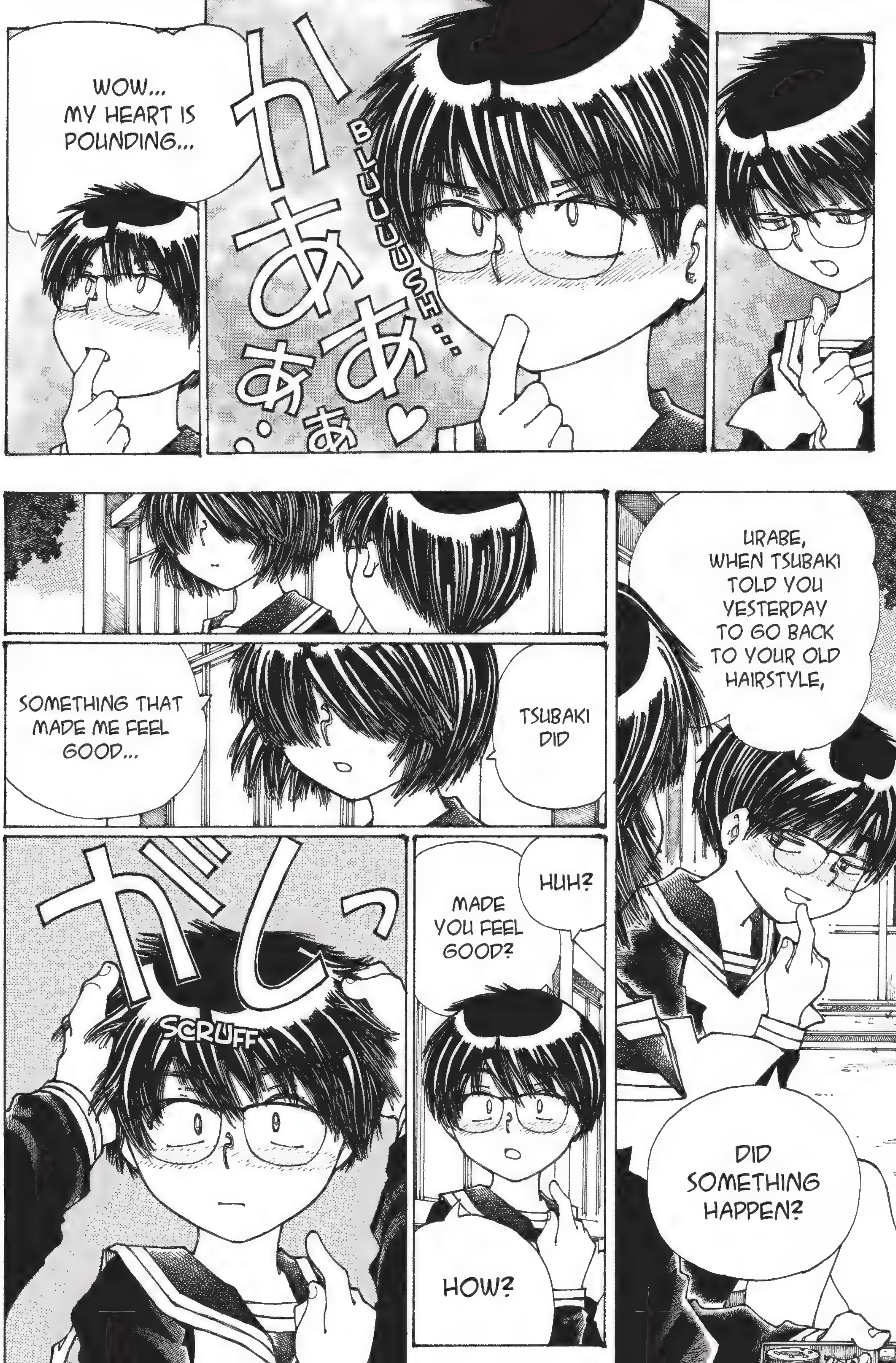

がしがしがし
SCRUFF
SCRUFF
SCRUFF
フッ
SWFF
ザーッ
RUSTLE
ザザザ…
SWISSH…

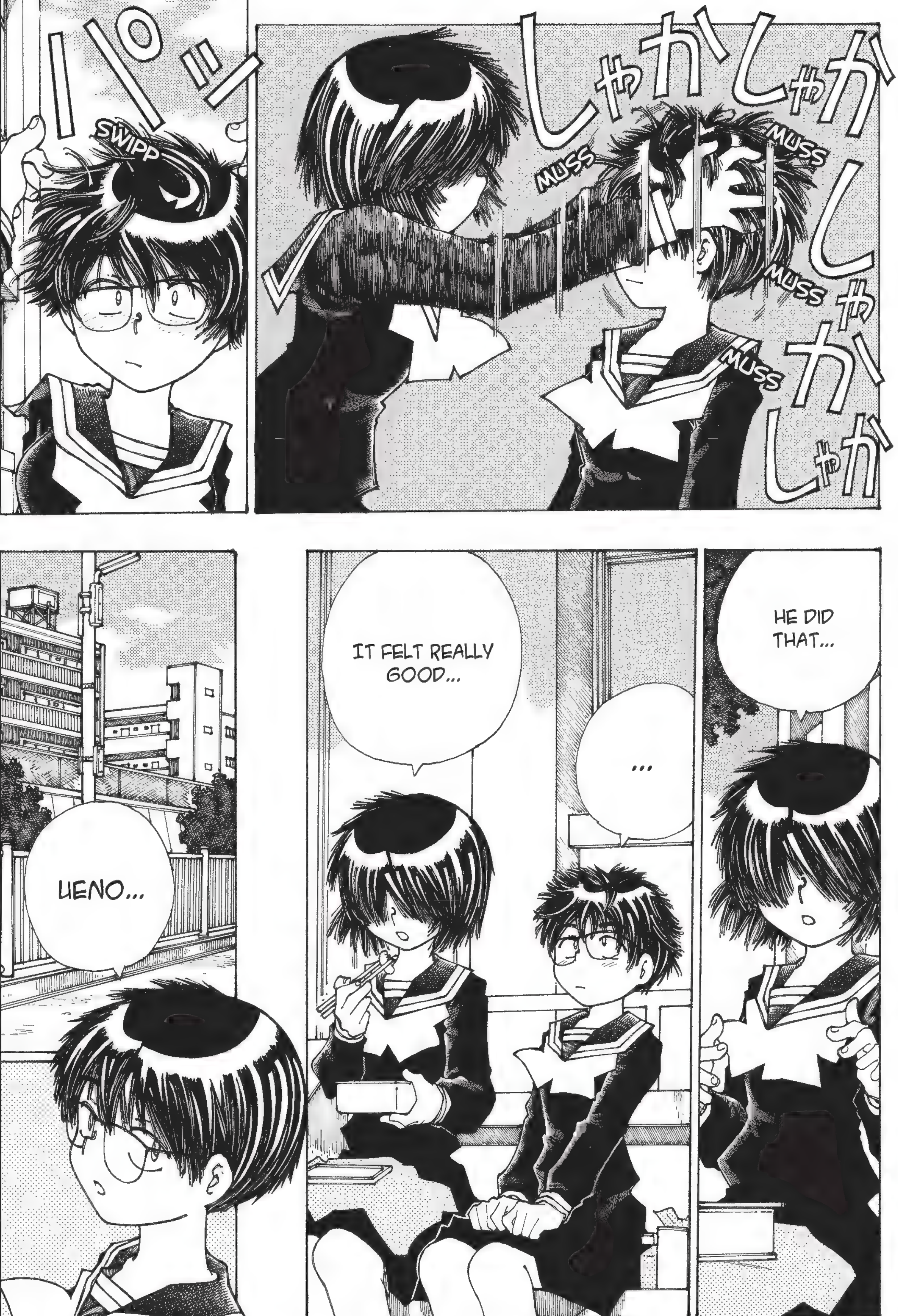

THERE...
BACK TO NORMAL...
IF YOU DON'T LIKE THAT HAIRSTYLE,
I WON'T WEAR IT ANYMORE...
TH...
THANK YOU...
WHEN I SAW HER BEDHEAD THIS MORNING, I THOUGHT SHE SHOULD SPEND MORE TIME ON HER HAIR...
WELL,
BUT WHEN I SEE HER LIKE THIS...
I THINK HER HAIR LOOKS CUTEST THIS WAY...
LET'S GO HOME...

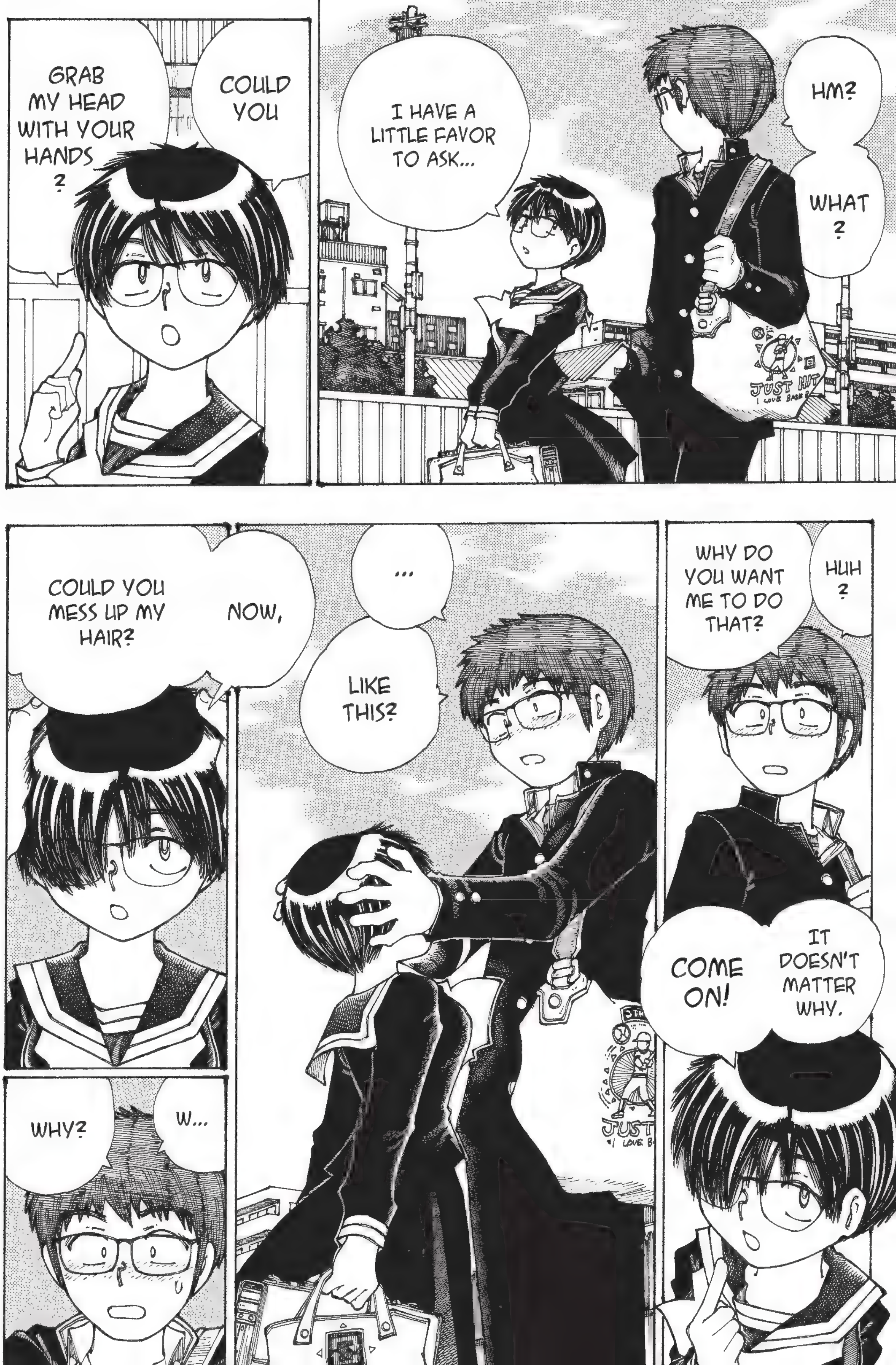

...
TSUBAKI...
HM?
WHAT?
YOU KNOW,
IT KINDA FEELS GOOD
TO HAVE YOU
MESS UP MY HAIR...
HUH...?
OH...
REALLY?
THOSE WORDS...
WERE KIND OF...
EROTIC...
URABE!

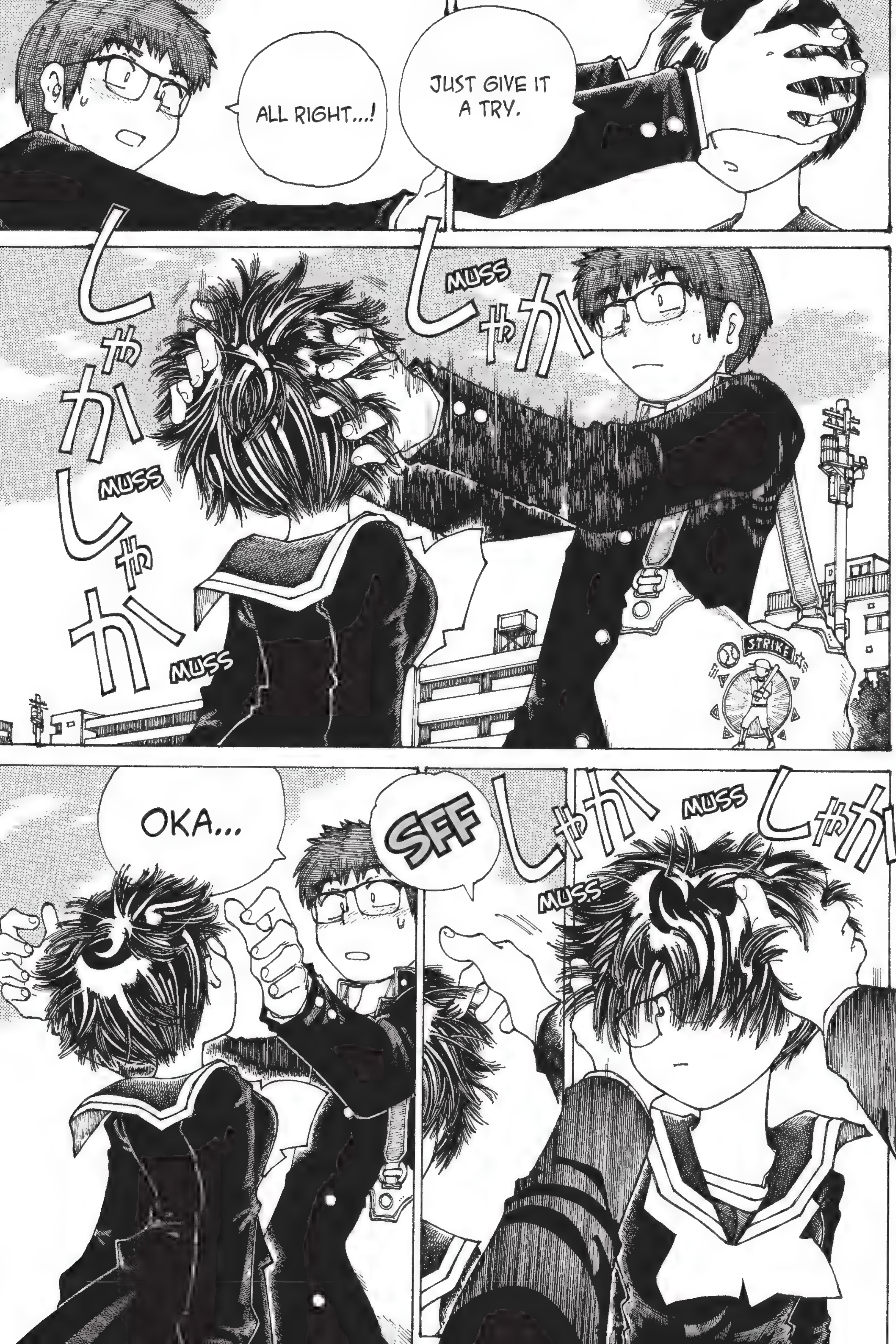

I THOUGHT OF A PERFECT NEW HAIRSTYLE FOR YOU!
SO!
LET'S GO TO THE DRESSING ROOM AFTER LUNCH! ♪
I'LL PASS...
WHAT? WHY? OUR CLASSMATES LOVED YOUR NEW LOOK YESTERDAY!
COME ON, LET'S TRY ANOTHER HAIRSTYLE TODAY!
I SAID,
I'LL PASS.
GLARE
HEH HEH...
URABE,
I'LL BET...

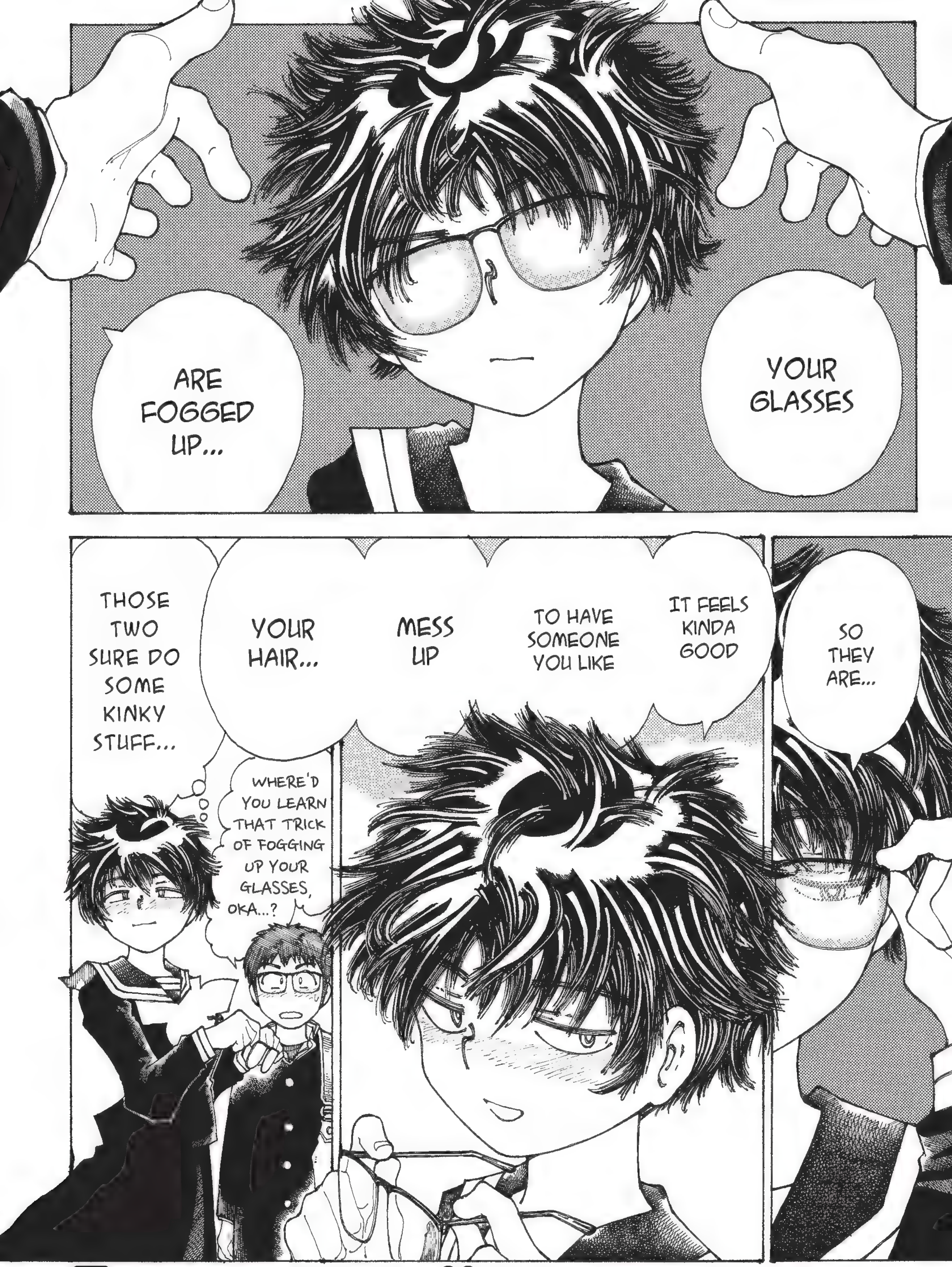

TSUBAKI TOLD YOU
TO GO BACK TO YOUR NORMAL HAIRSTYLE, DIDN'T HE?
HUH...?
NO...
THAT'S NOT...
I'M RIGHT, AREN'T I?
SEEMS LIKE
TSUBAKI IS PRETTY POSSESSIVE.
POSSESSIVE...?
TSUBAKI DOESN'T LIKE YOU
CHANGING YOUR HAIRSTYLE AND LETTING OTHER BOYS SEE YOUR FACE.
SHLP
ポーッ
SPOP


かぁぁぁぁぁ
BLUUUUSH…♥
WOW… MY HEART IS POUNDING…
URABE, WHEN TSUBAKI TOLD YOU YESTERDAY TO GO BACK TO YOUR OLD HAIRSTYLE,
DID SOMETHING HAPPEN?
TSUBAKI DID
SOMETHING THAT MADE ME FEEL GOOD…
HUH?
MADE YOU FEEL GOOD?
HOW?
がしっ
SCRUFF


しゃかしゃか
MUSS
MUSS
MUSS
MUSS
しゃかしゃか
パッ
SWIPP
HE DID THAT...
IT FELT REALLY GOOD...
...
UENO...

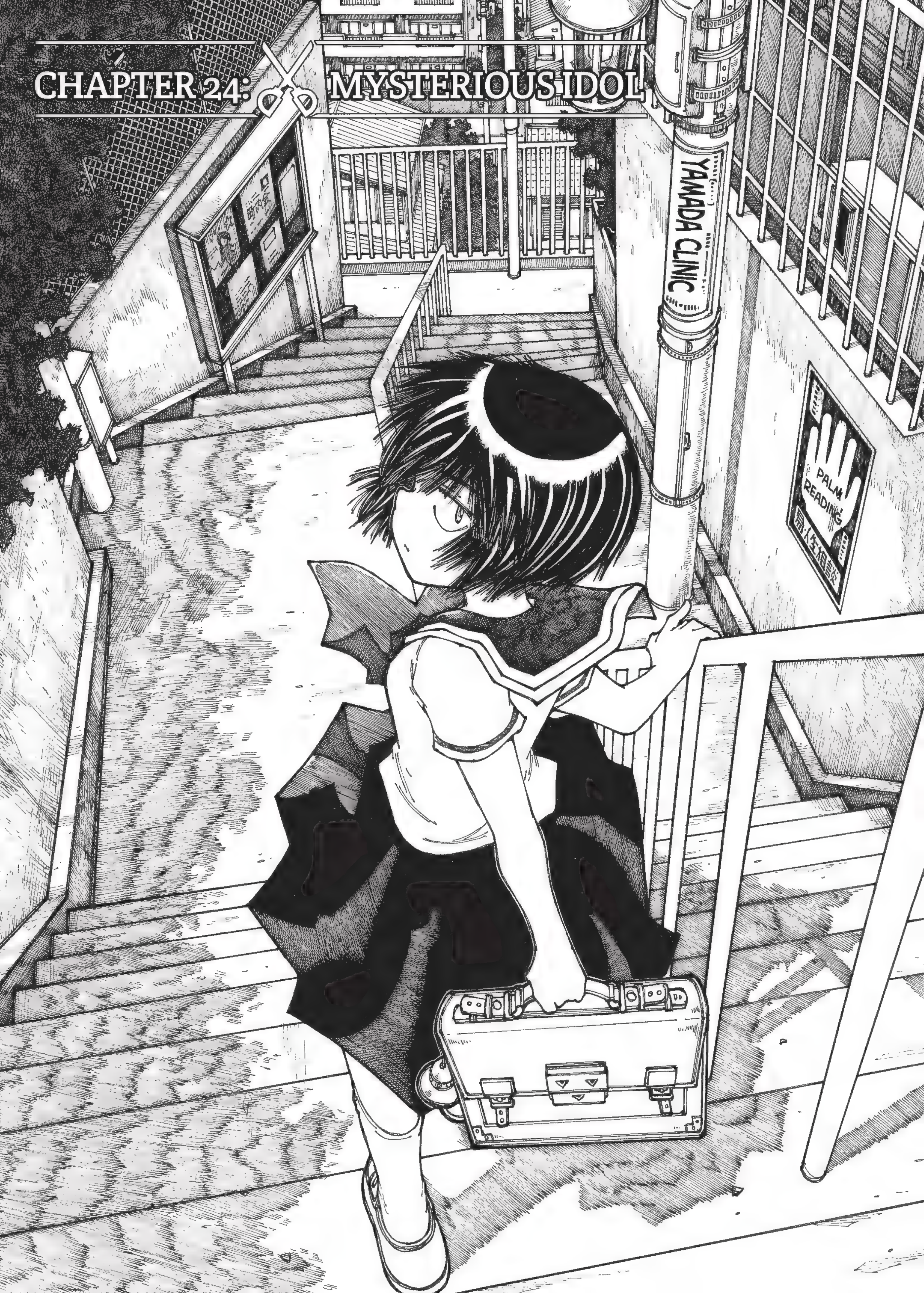

HM?
WHAT?
I HAVE A LITTLE FAVOR TO ASK...
JUST HIT
COULD YOU
GRAB MY HEAD WITH YOUR HANDS?
HUH?
WHY DO YOU WANT ME TO DO THAT?
IT DOESN'T MATTER WHY.
COME ON!
...
LIKE THIS?
NOW,
COULD YOU MESS UP MY HAIR?
W...
WHY?

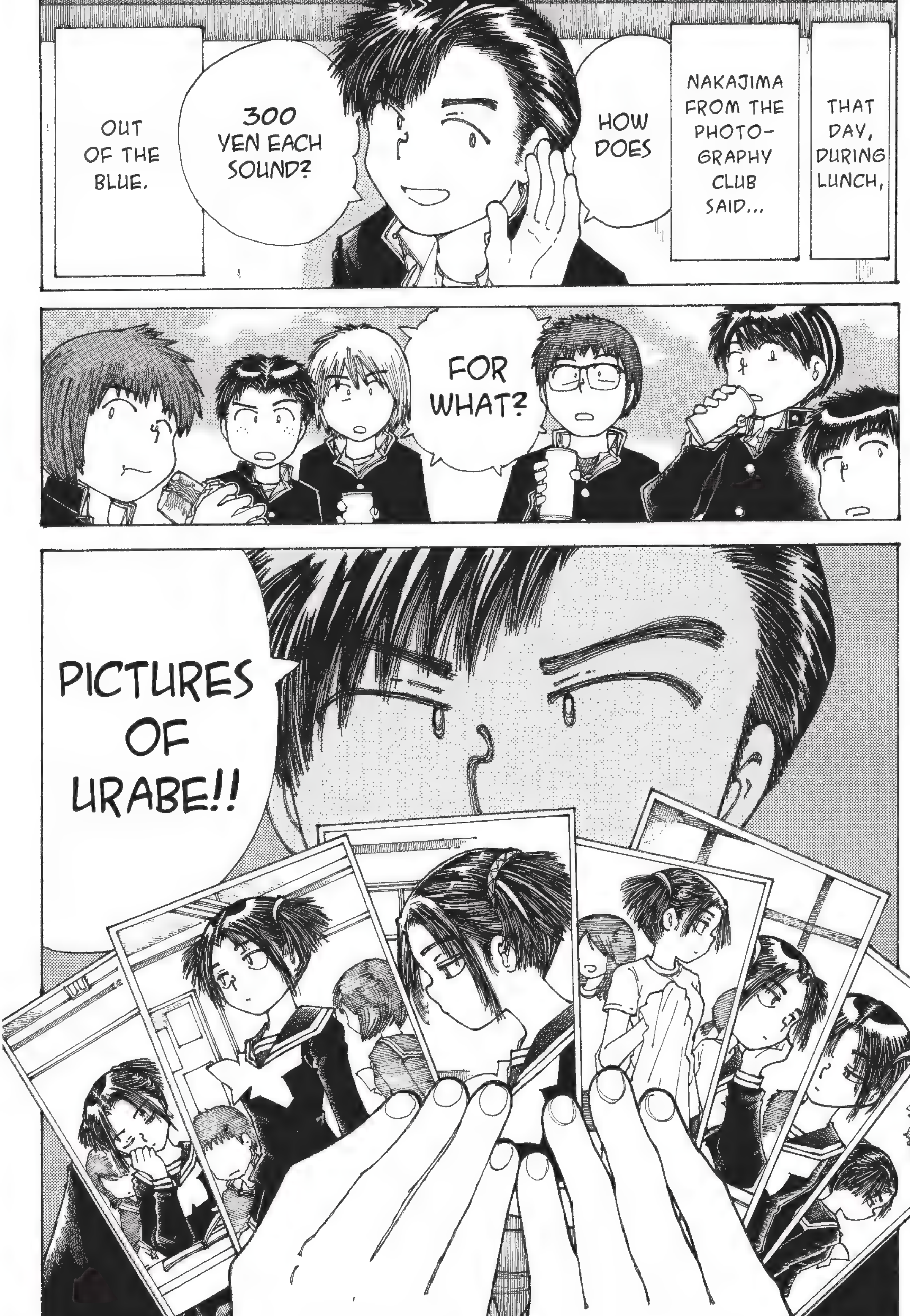

JUST GIVE IT A TRY.
ALL RIGHT...!
しゃか
MUSS
しゃかしゃか
MUSS
しゃか
MUSS
しゃか
MUSS
しゃか
MUSS
しゃか
MUSS
SFF
OKA...

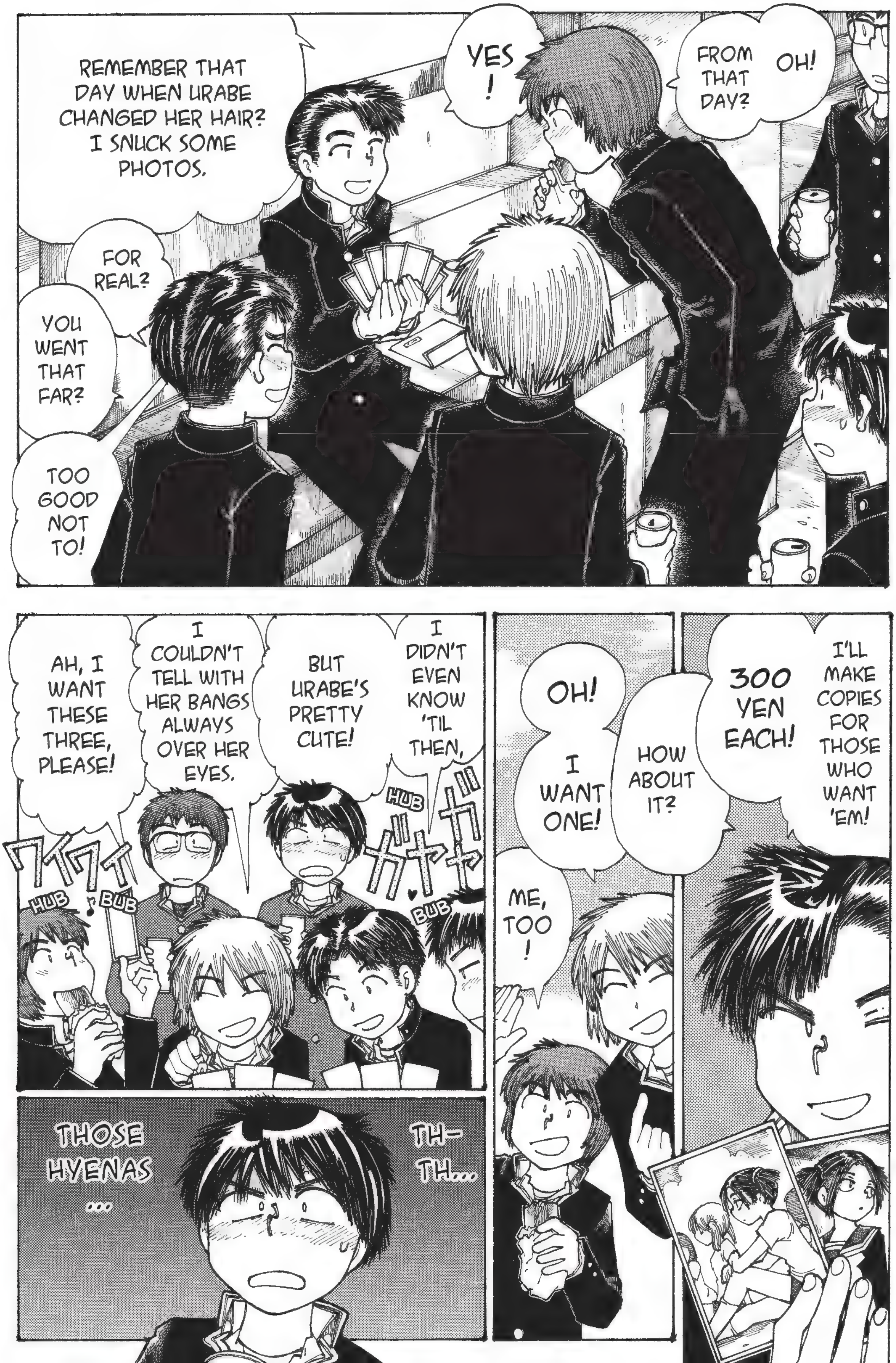

YOUR GLASSES
ARE FOGGED UP...
SO THEY ARE...
IT FEELS KINDA GOOD
TO HAVE SOMEONE YOU LIKE
MESS UP
YOUR HAIR...
THOSE TWO SURE DO SOME KINKY STUFF...
WHERE'D YOU LEARN THAT TRICK OF FOGGING UP YOUR GLASSES, OKA...?

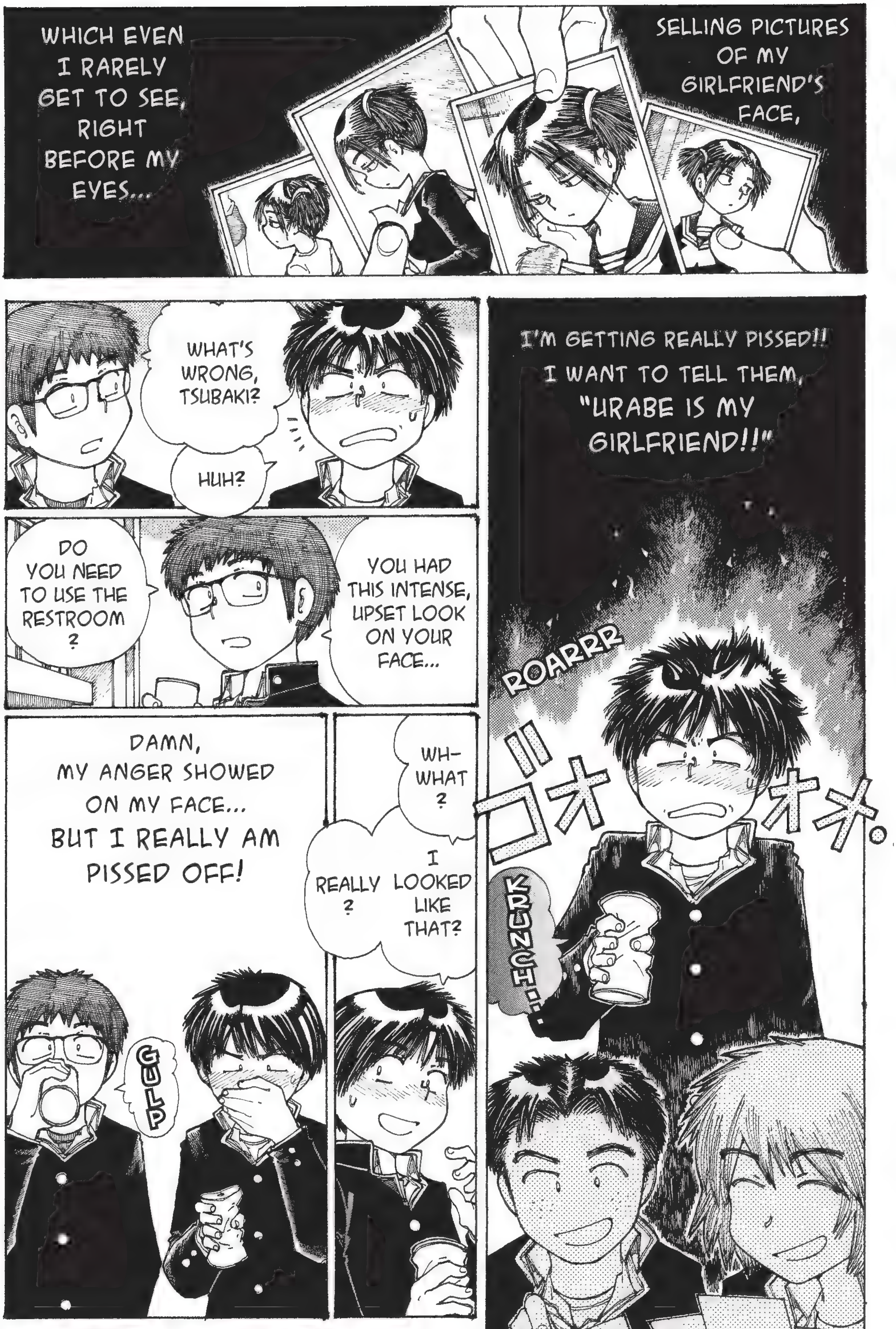
END OF CHAPTER 23

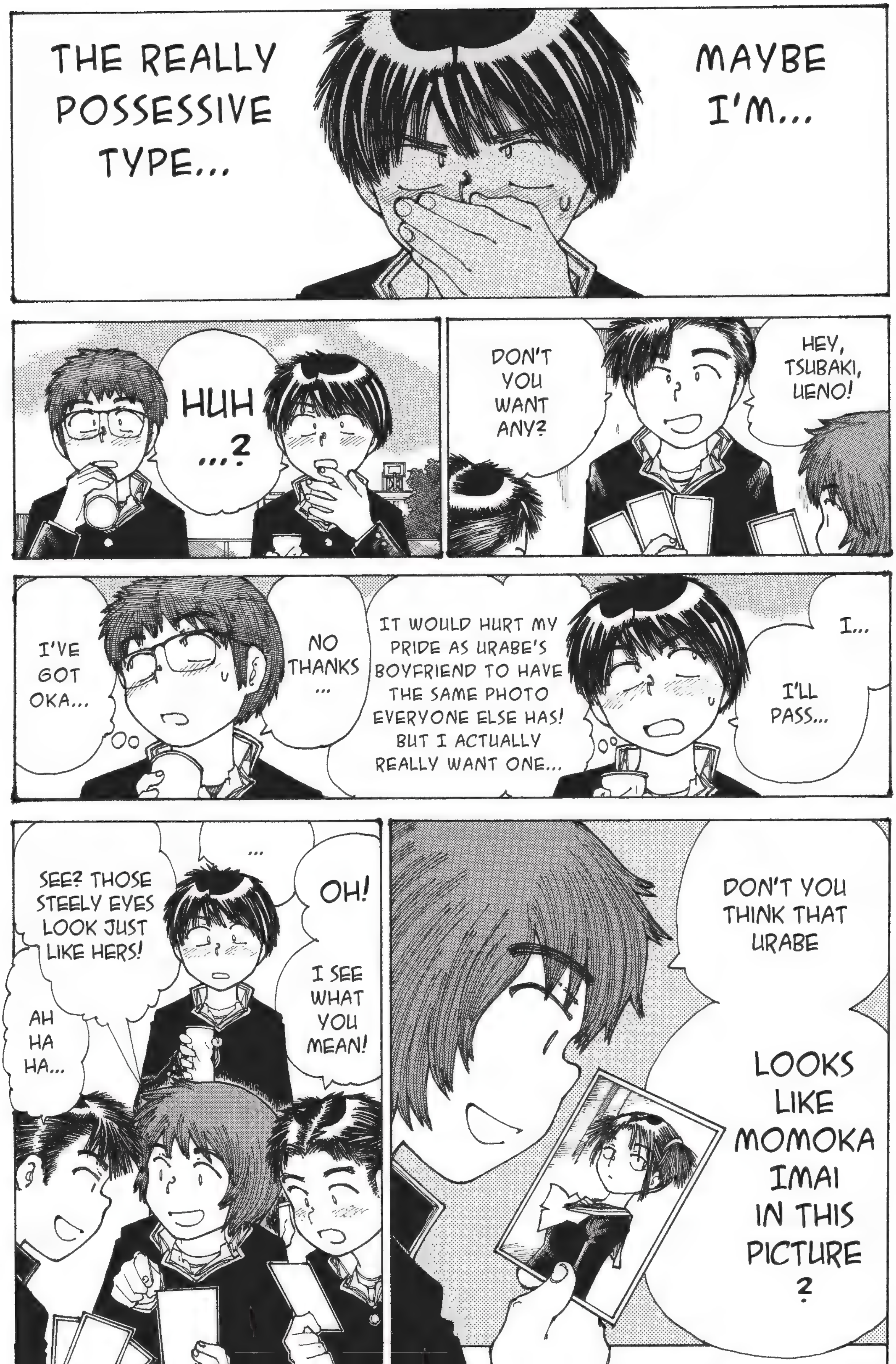
CHAPTER 24: MYSTERIOUS IDOL

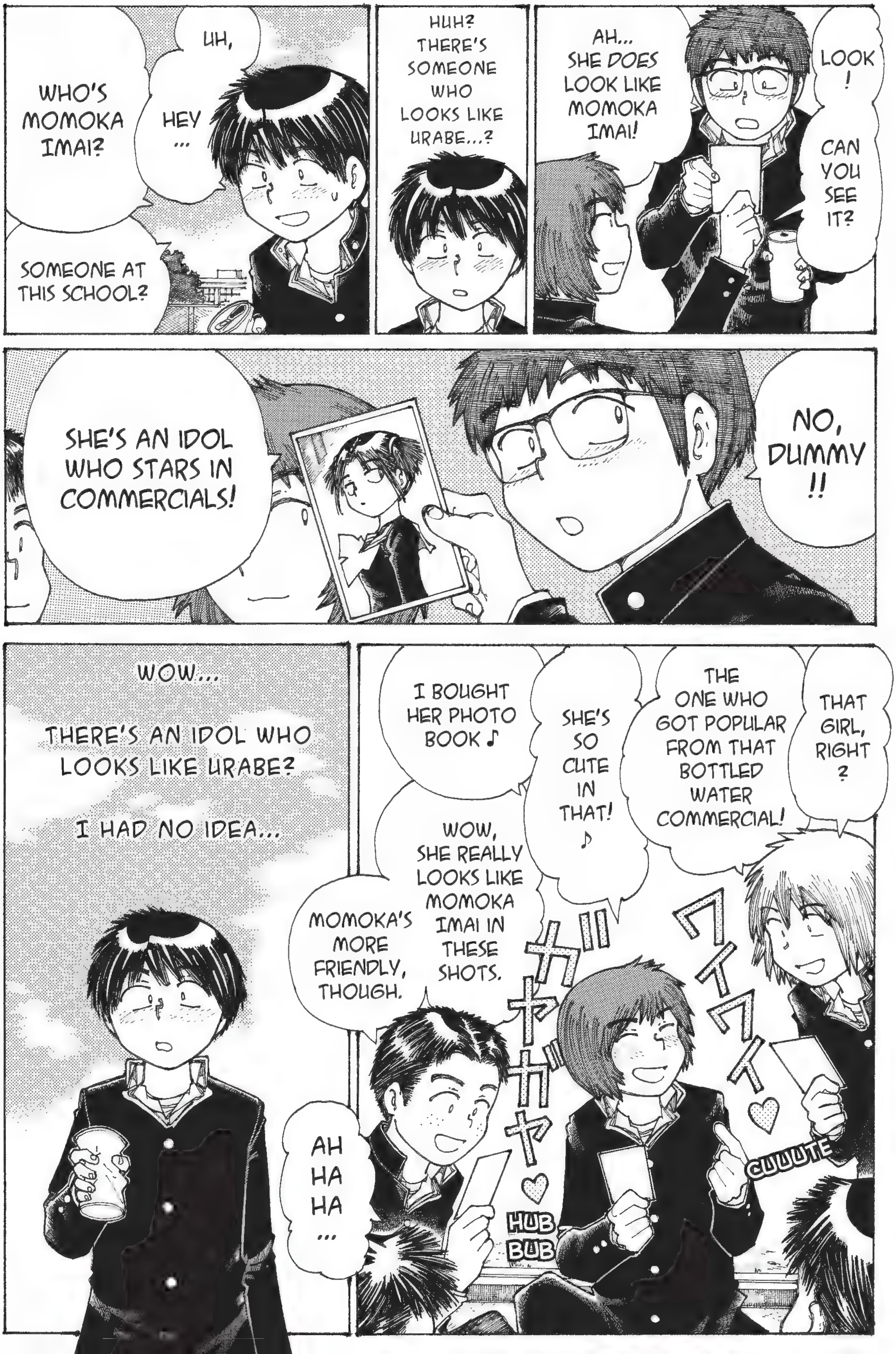

町内会
YAMADA CLINIC
PALM READING
易人生相談

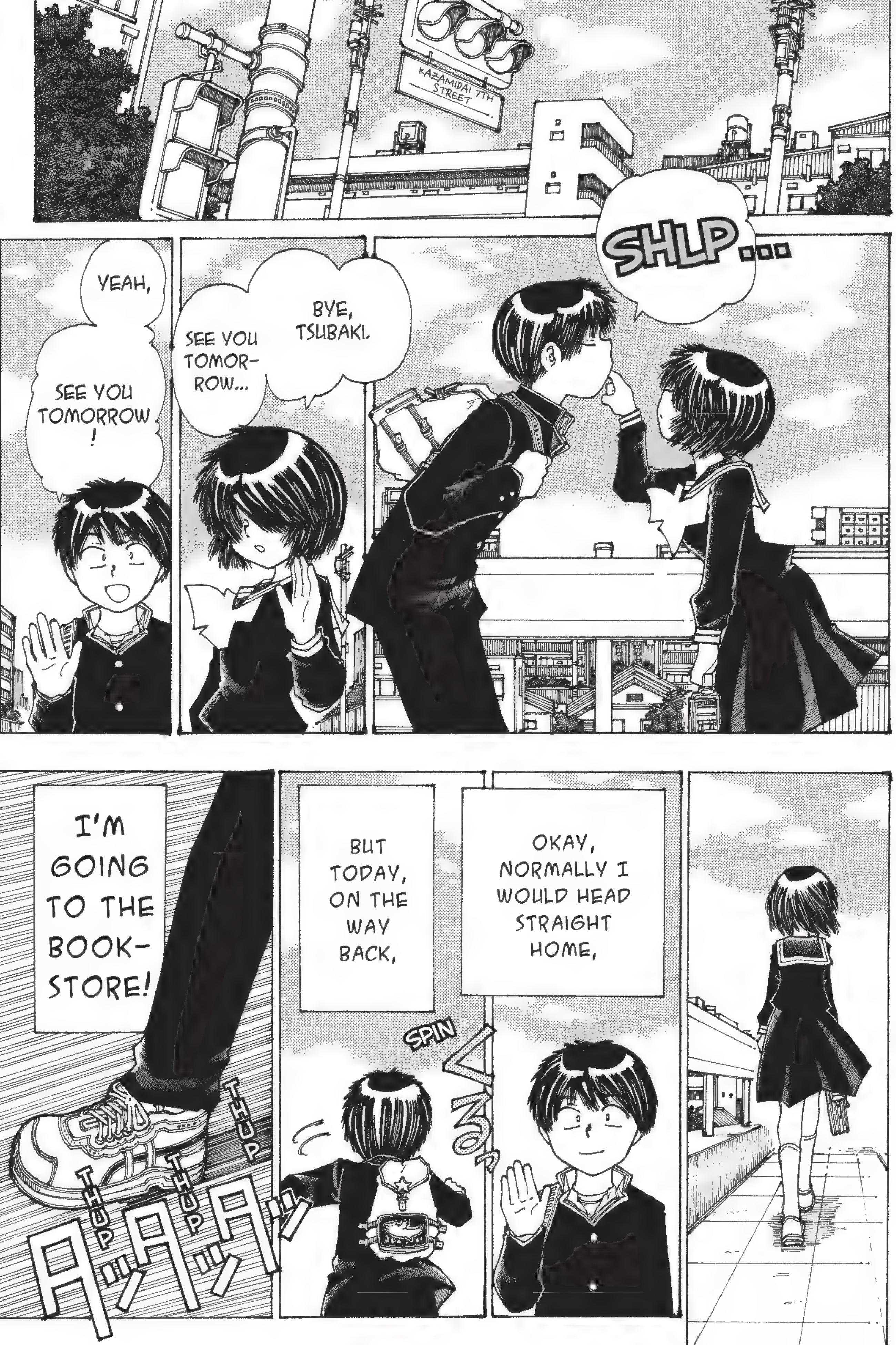

THAT DAY, DURING LUNCH,
NAKAJIMA FROM THE PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB SAID...
HOW DOES
300 YEN EACH SOUND?
OUT OF THE BLUE.
FOR WHAT?
PICTURES OF URABE!!

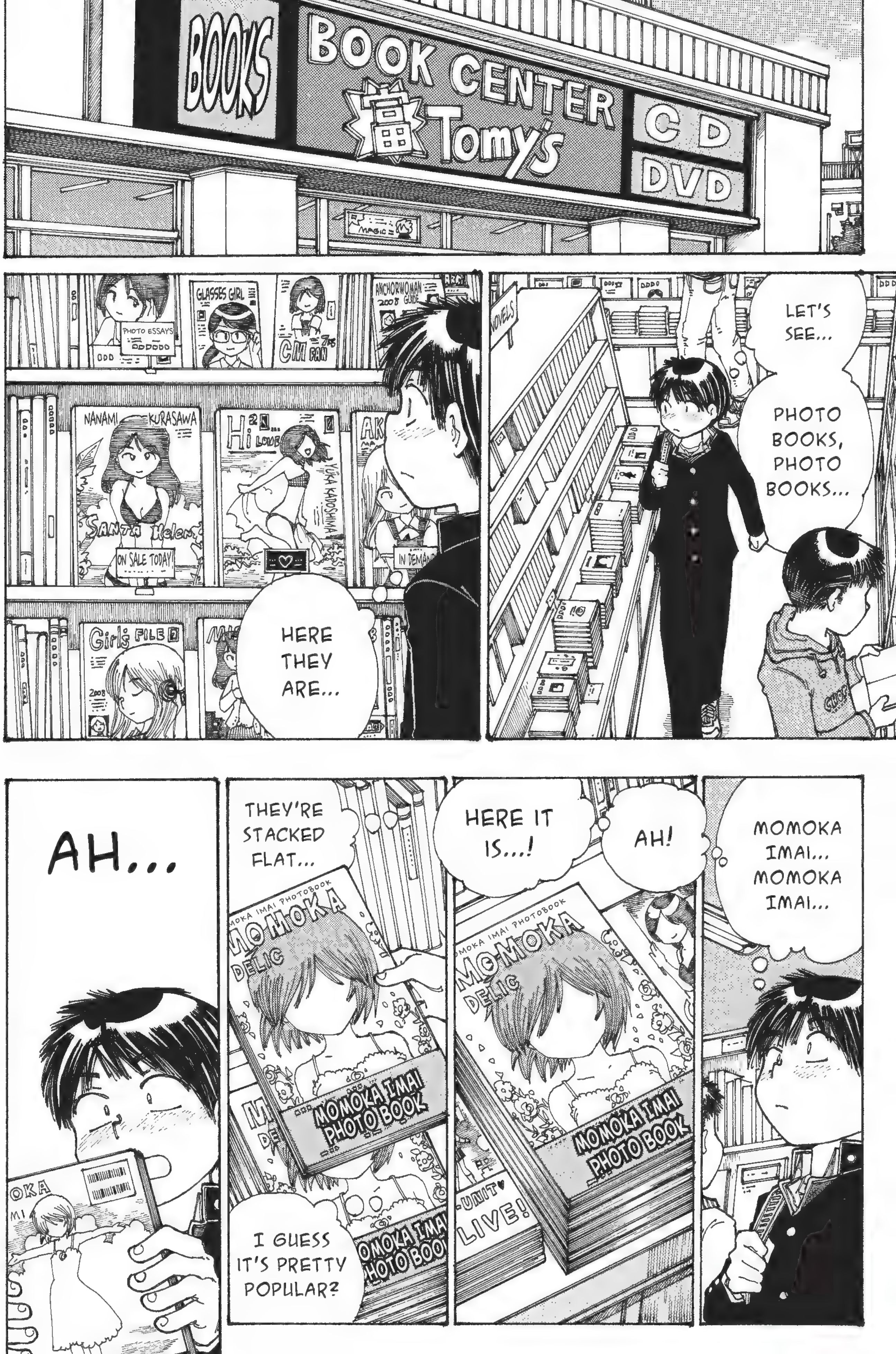

REMEMBER THAT DAY WHEN URABE CHANGED HER HAIR? I SNUCK SOME PHOTOS.
FROM THAT DAY?
YES!
OH!
FOR REAL?
YOU WENT THAT FAR?
TOO GOOD NOT TO!
I'LL MAKE COPIES FOR THOSE WHO WANT 'EM!
300 YEN EACH!
HOW ABOUT IT?
OH!
I WANT ONE!
ME, TOO!
I DIDN'T EVEN KNOW 'TIL THEN,
BUT URABE'S PRETTY CUTE!
I COULDN'T TELL WITH HER BANGS ALWAYS OVER HER EYES.
AH, I WANT THESE THREE, PLEASE!
ガヤガヤ
HUB BUB
ワイワイ
HUB BUB
TH-TH...
THOSE HYENAS...

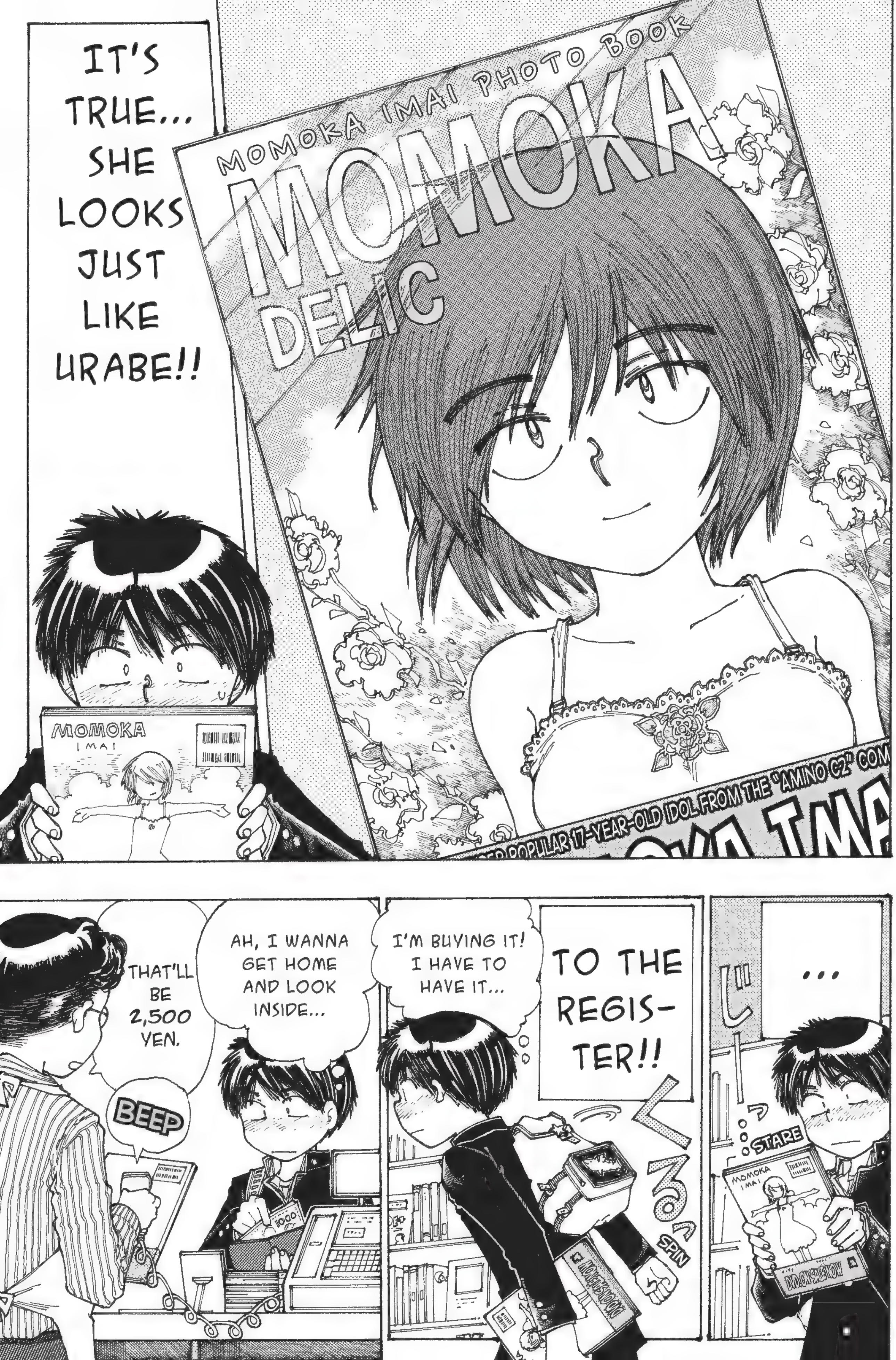

SELLING PICTURES OF MY GIRLFRIEND'S FACE,
WHICH EVEN I RARELY GET TO SEE, RIGHT BEFORE MY EYES...
I'M GETTING REALLY PISSED!! I WANT TO TELL THEM, "URABE IS MY GIRLFRIEND!!"
ROARRR
ゴオオオ。
KRUNCH...
WHAT'S WRONG, TSUBAKI?
HUH?
YOU HAD THIS INTENSE, UPSET LOOK ON YOUR FACE...
DO YOU NEED TO USE THE RESTROOM?
WH- WHAT?
I LOOKED LIKE THAT?
REALLY?
DAMN, MY ANGER SHOWED ON MY FACE... BUT I REALLY AM PISSED OFF!
GULP

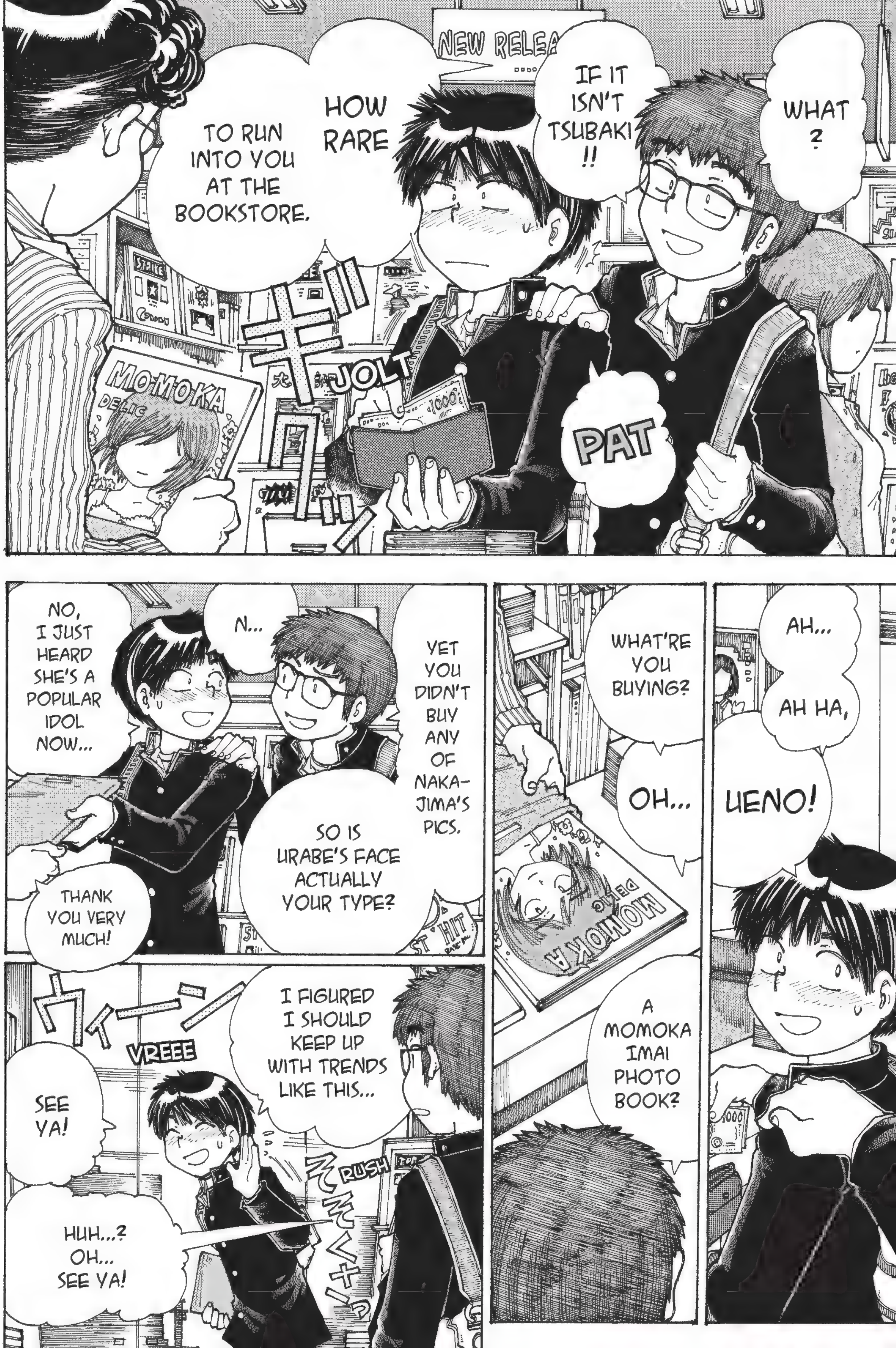

MAYBE I'M...
THE REALLY POSSESSIVE TYPE...
HEY, TSUBAKI, UENO!
DON'T YOU WANT ANY?
HUH ...?
I...
I'LL PASS...
IT WOULD HURT MY PRIDE AS URABE'S BOYFRIEND TO HAVE THE SAME PHOTO EVERYONE ELSE HAS! BUT I ACTUALLY REALLY WANT ONE...
NO THANKS ...
I'VE GOT OKA...
DON'T YOU THINK THAT URABE
LOOKS LIKE MOMOKA IMAI IN THIS PICTURE?
...
OH!
I SEE WHAT YOU MEAN!
SEE? THOSE STEELY EYES LOOK JUST LIKE HERS!
AH HA HA...

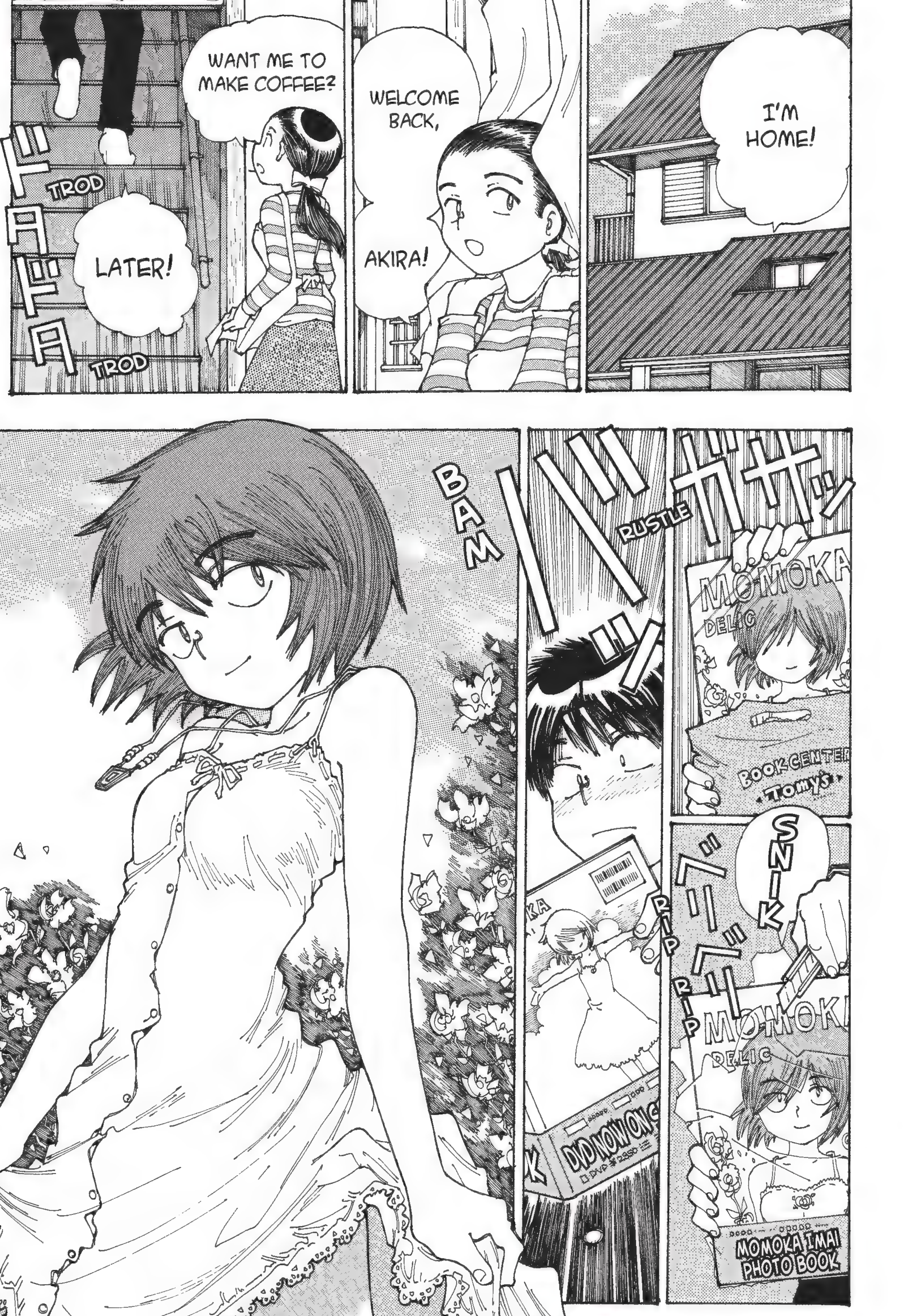

LOOK! CAN YOU SEE IT?
AH... SHE DOES LOOK LIKE MOMOKA IMAI!
HUH? THERE'S SOMEONE WHO LOOKS LIKE URABE...?
UH,
HEY...
WHO'S MOMOKA IMAI?
SOMEONE AT THIS SCHOOL?
NO, DUMMY!!
SHE'S AN IDOL WHO STARS IN COMMERCIALS!
THAT GIRL, RIGHT?
THE ONE WHO GOT POPULAR FROM THAT BOTTLED WATER COMMERCIAL!
SHE'S SO CUTE IN THAT! ♪
I BOUGHT HER PHOTO BOOK ♪
WOW, SHE REALLY LOOKS LIKE MOMOKA IMAI IN THESE SHOTS.
MOMOKA'S MORE FRIENDLY, THOUGH.
ワイワイ ♥
CUUUTE
ガヤガヤ ♥
HUB BUB
AH HA HA...
WOW...
THERE'S AN IDOL WHO LOOKS LIKE URABE?
I HAD NO IDEA...

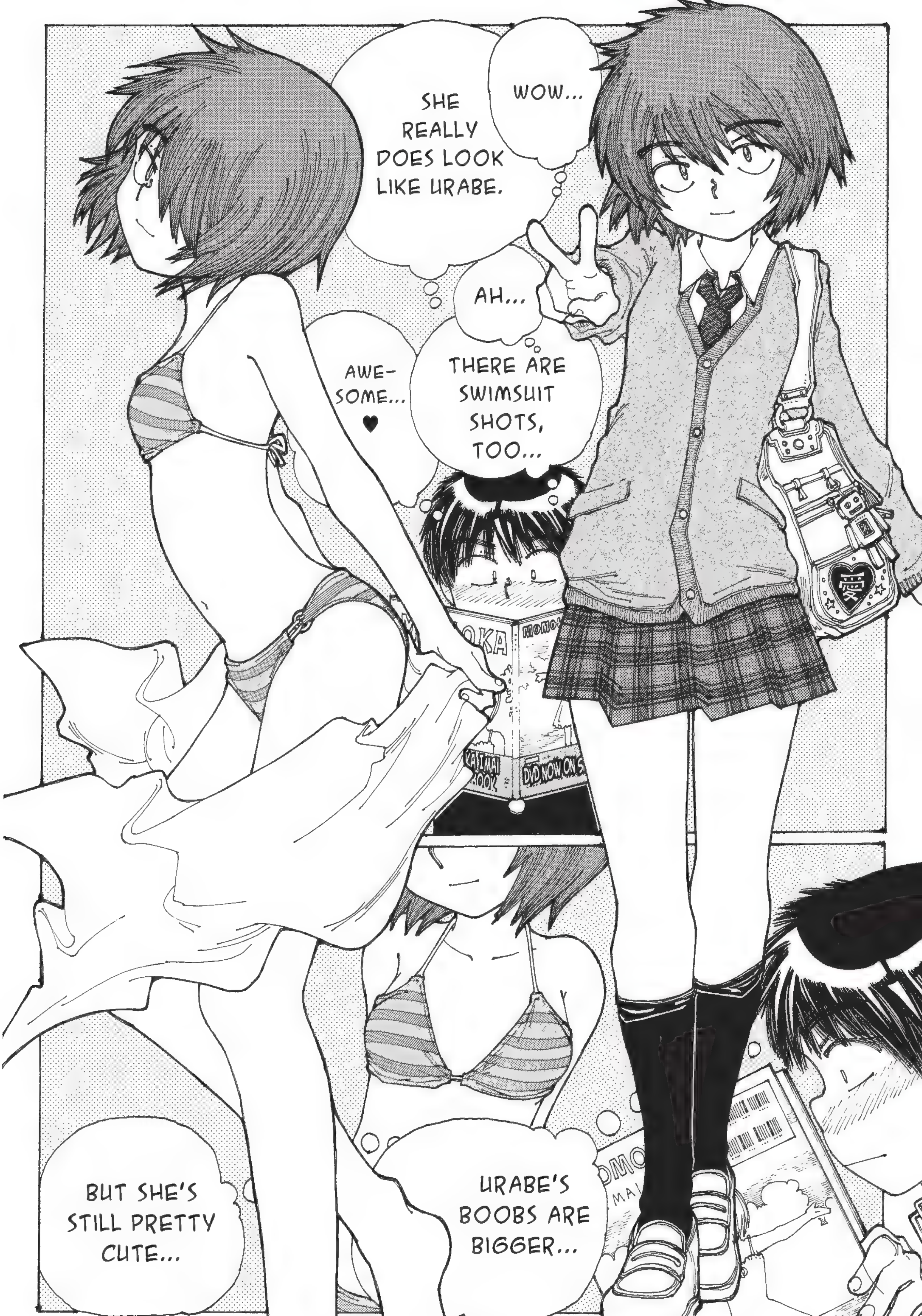

KAZAMIDAI 7TH STREET
SHLP...
BYE, TSUBAKI.
SEE YOU TOMORROW...
YEAH,
SEE YOU TOMORROW!
OKAY, NORMALLY I WOULD HEAD STRAIGHT HOME,
SPIN
BUT TODAY, ON THE WAY BACK,
I'M GOING TO THE BOOKSTORE!
THUP
THUP
THUP

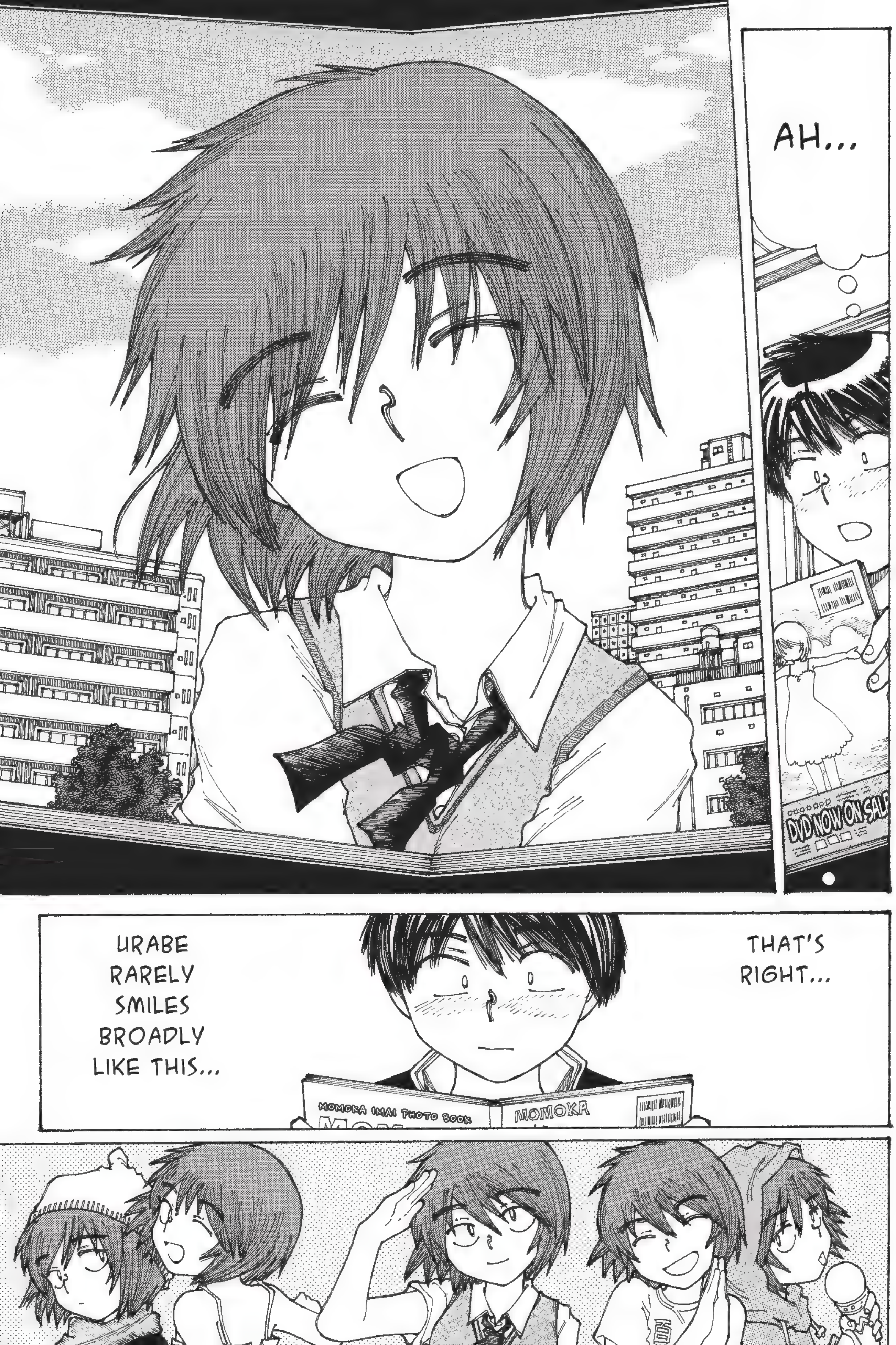

BOOKS
BOOK CENTER Tomy's
CD
DVD
LET'S SEE...
PHOTO BOOKS, PHOTO BOOKS...
NOVELS
PHOTO ESSAYS
GLASSES GIRL
ANCHORWOMAN GUIDE 2008
CM FAN
NANAMI KURASAWA
ON SALE TODAY!
Hi LOVE
YUKA KADOSHIMA
IN DEMAND
Girls FILE 2008
HERE THEY ARE...
MOMOKA IMAI... MOMOKA IMAI...
AH!
HERE IT IS...!
MOMOKA IMAI PHOTOBOOK
MOMOKA DELIC
MOMOKA IMAI PHOTO BOOK
LIVE!
THEY'RE STACKED FLAT...
I GUESS IT'S PRETTY POPULAR?
AH...

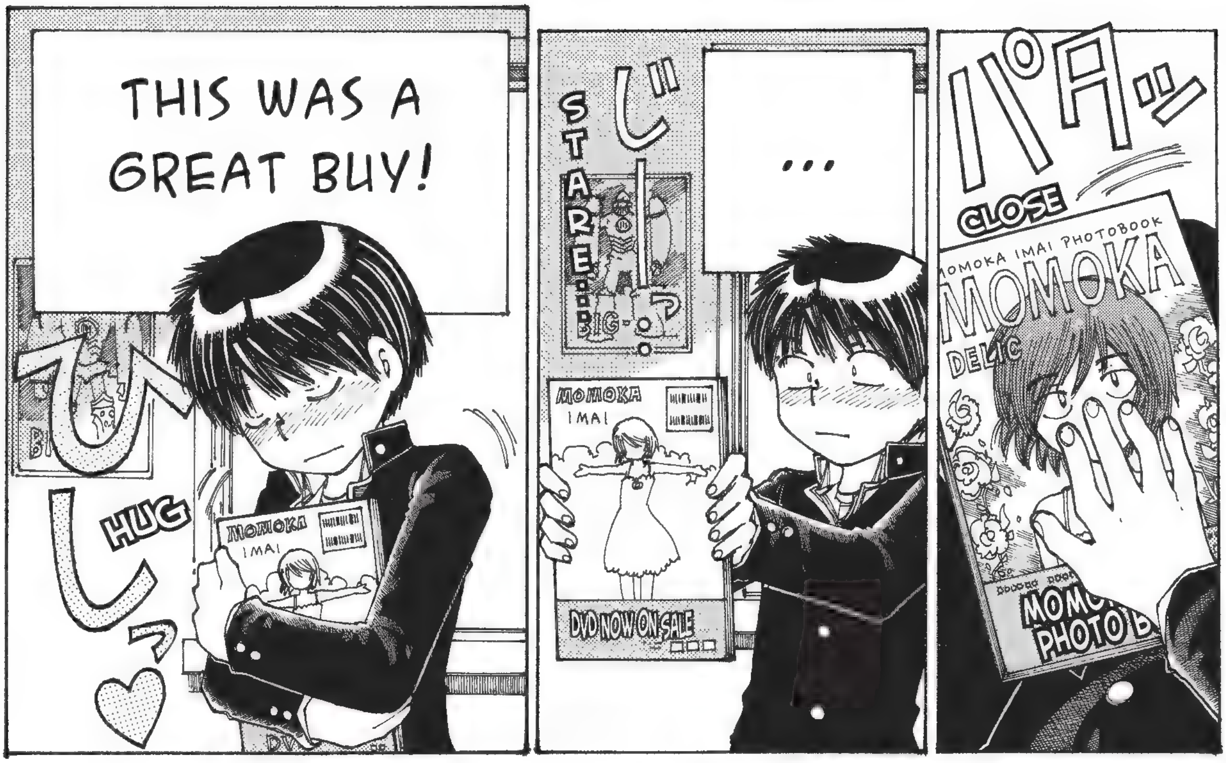

IT'S TRUE... SHE LOOKS JUST LIKE URABE!!
MOMOKA IMAI PHOTO BOOK
MOMOKA DELIC
ER POPULAR 17-YEAR-OLD IDOL FROM THE "AMINO C2" COM
MOMOKA IMAI
...
じー
STARE
MOMOKA IMAI
I'M BUYING IT! I HAVE TO HAVE IT...
TO THE REGISTER!!
くるっ
SPIN
AH, I WANNA GET HOME AND LOOK INSIDE...
THAT'LL BE 2,500 YEN.
BEEP

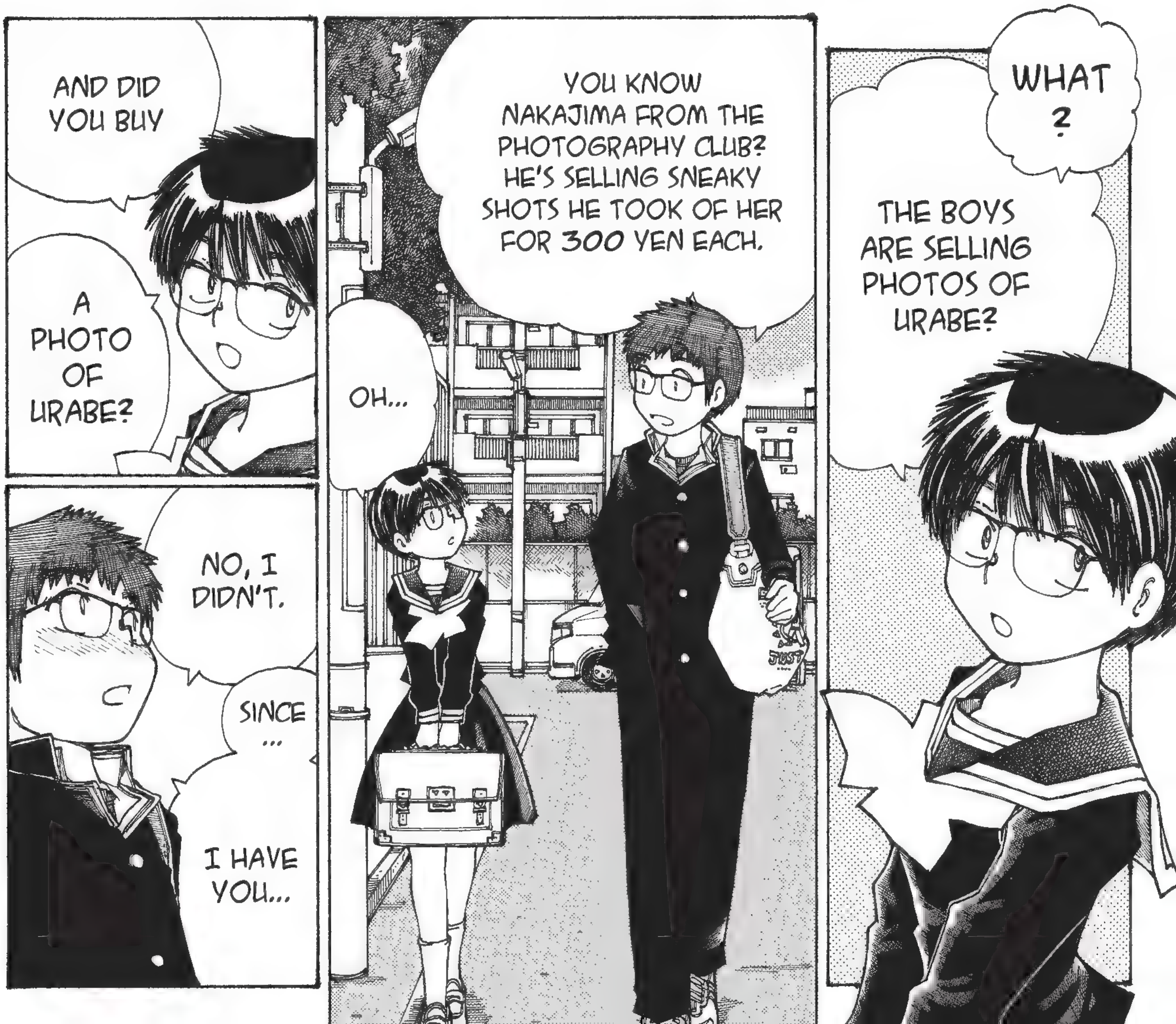

NEW RELEA
WHAT?
IF IT ISN'T TSUBAKI!!
HOW RARE
TO RUN INTO YOU AT THE BOOKSTORE.
JOLT
MOMOKA DELIC
PAT
AH...
AH HA,
UENO!
WHAT'RE YOU BUYING?
OH...
A MOMOKA IMAI PHOTO BOOK?
MOMOKA DELIC
YET YOU DIDN'T BUY ANY OF NAKAJIMA'S PICS.
N...
NO, I JUST HEARD SHE'S A POPULAR IDOL NOW...
SO IS URABE'S FACE ACTUALLY YOUR TYPE?
THANK YOU VERY MUCH!
I FIGURED I SHOULD KEEP UP WITH TRENDS LIKE THIS...
RUSH
VREEE
SEE YA!
HUH...? OH... SEE YA!

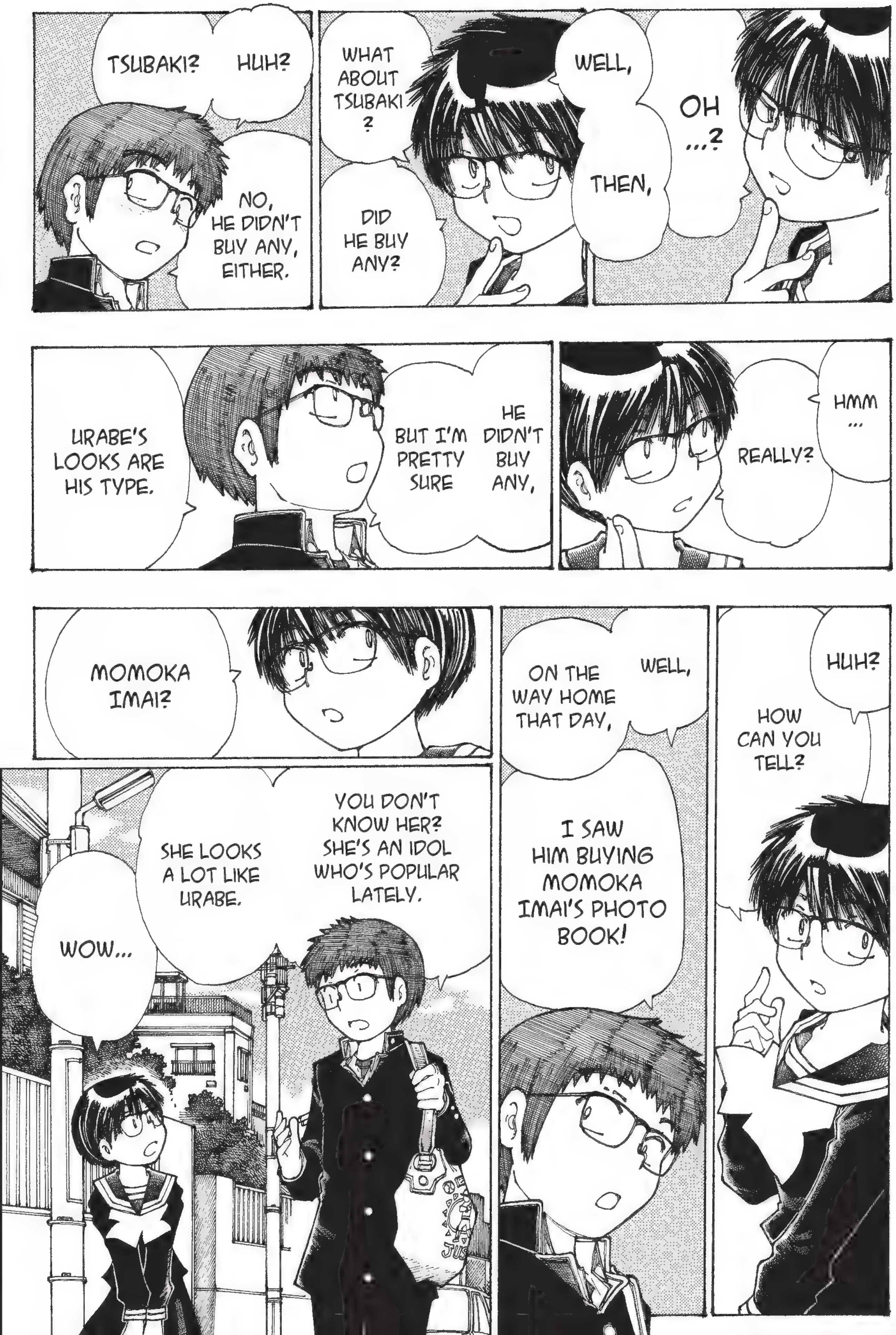

I'M HOME!
WELCOME BACK, AKIRA!
WANT ME TO MAKE COFFEE?
LATER!
TROD
TROD
RUSTLE
ガサッ
MOMOKA DELIC
BOOK CENTER Tomy's
BAM
バッ
SNIK
RIP
RIP
ベリベリ
MOMOKA DELIC
MOMOKA IMAI PHOTO BOOK
DVD NOW ON S

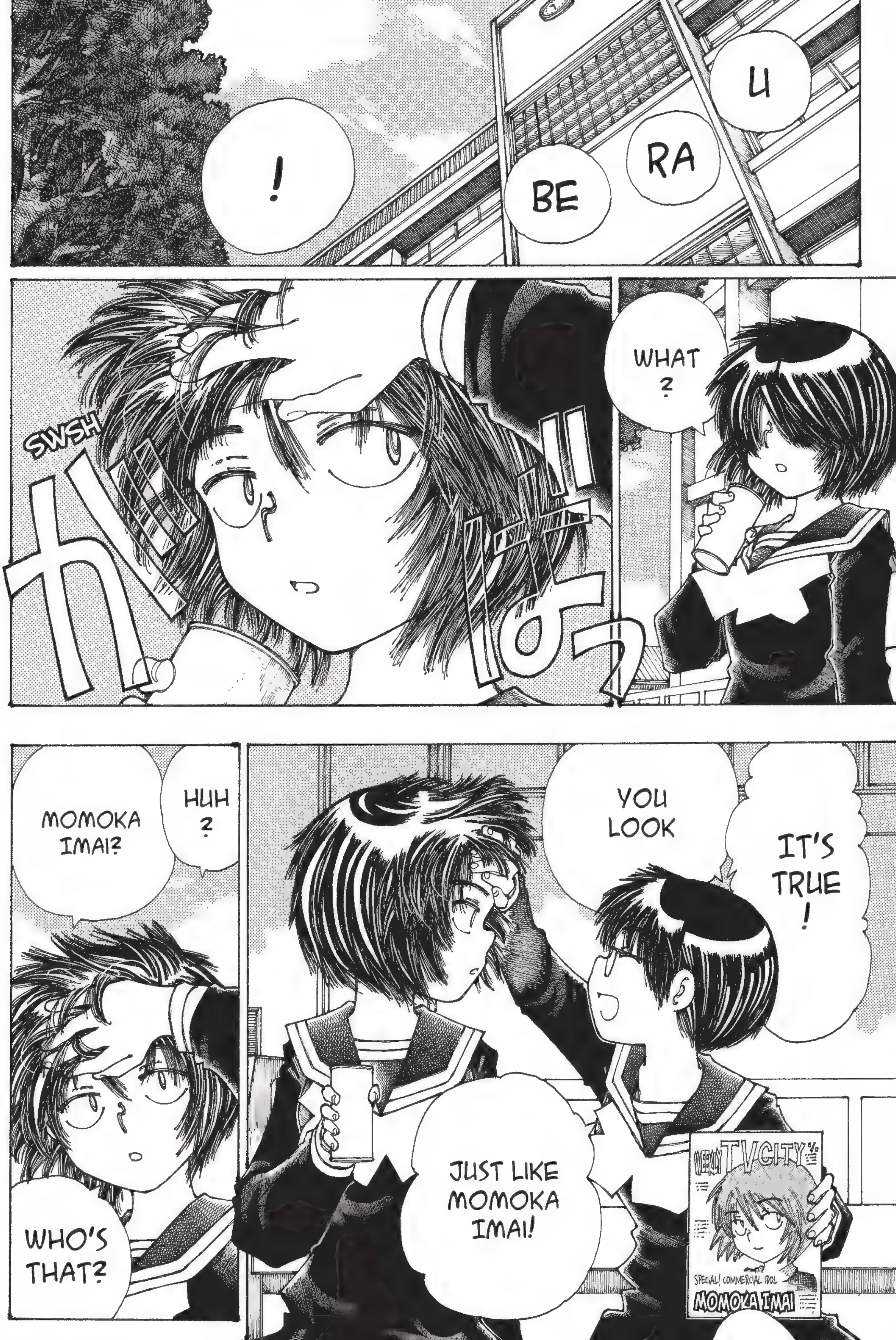

WOW...
SHE REALLY DOES LOOK LIKE URABE.
AH...
THERE ARE SWIMSUIT SHOTS, TOO...
AWE-SOME... ♥
URABE'S BOOBS ARE BIGGER...
BUT SHE'S STILL PRETTY CUTE...

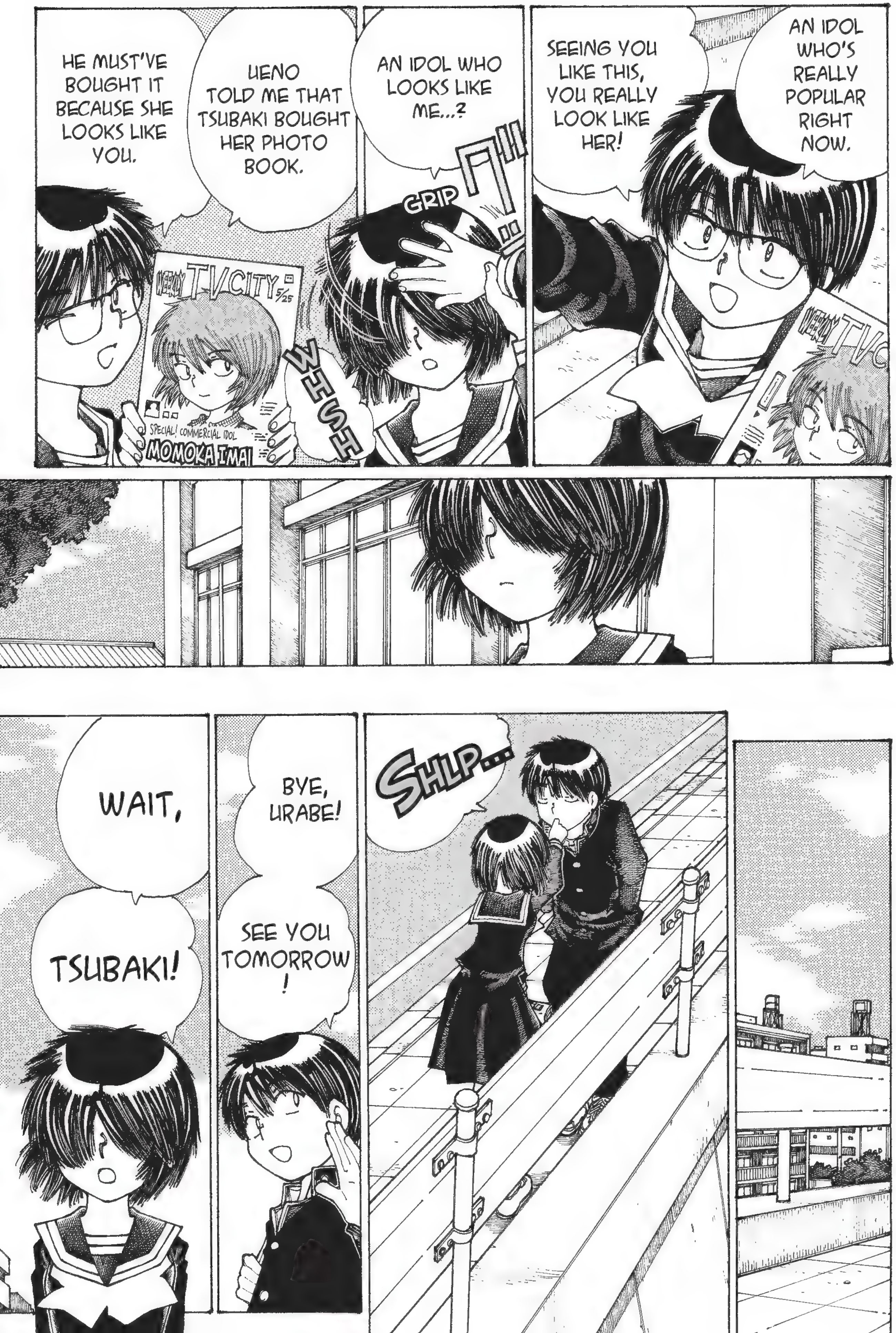

AH...
DVD NOW ON SAL
THAT'S RIGHT...
URABE RARELY SMILES BROADLY LIKE THIS...
MOMOKA IMAI PHOTO BOOK
MOMOKA

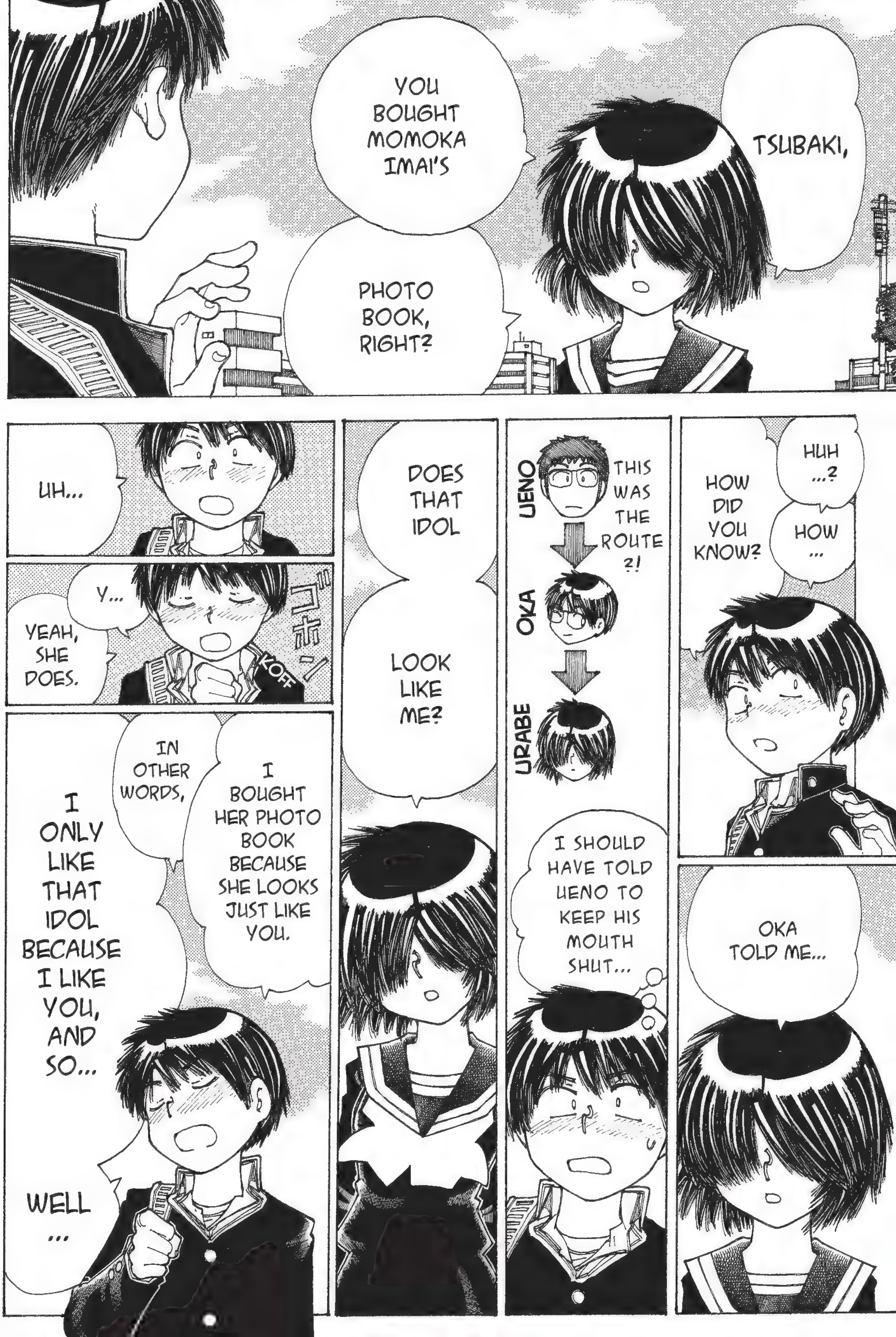

パタッ
CLOSE
MOMOKA IMAI PHOTOBOOK
MOMOKA
DELIC
MOMO PHOTO B
...
じー
STARE...
BIG
MOMOKA IMAI
DVD NOW ON SALE
THIS WAS A GREAT BUY!
ひし
HUG
MOMOKA IMAI

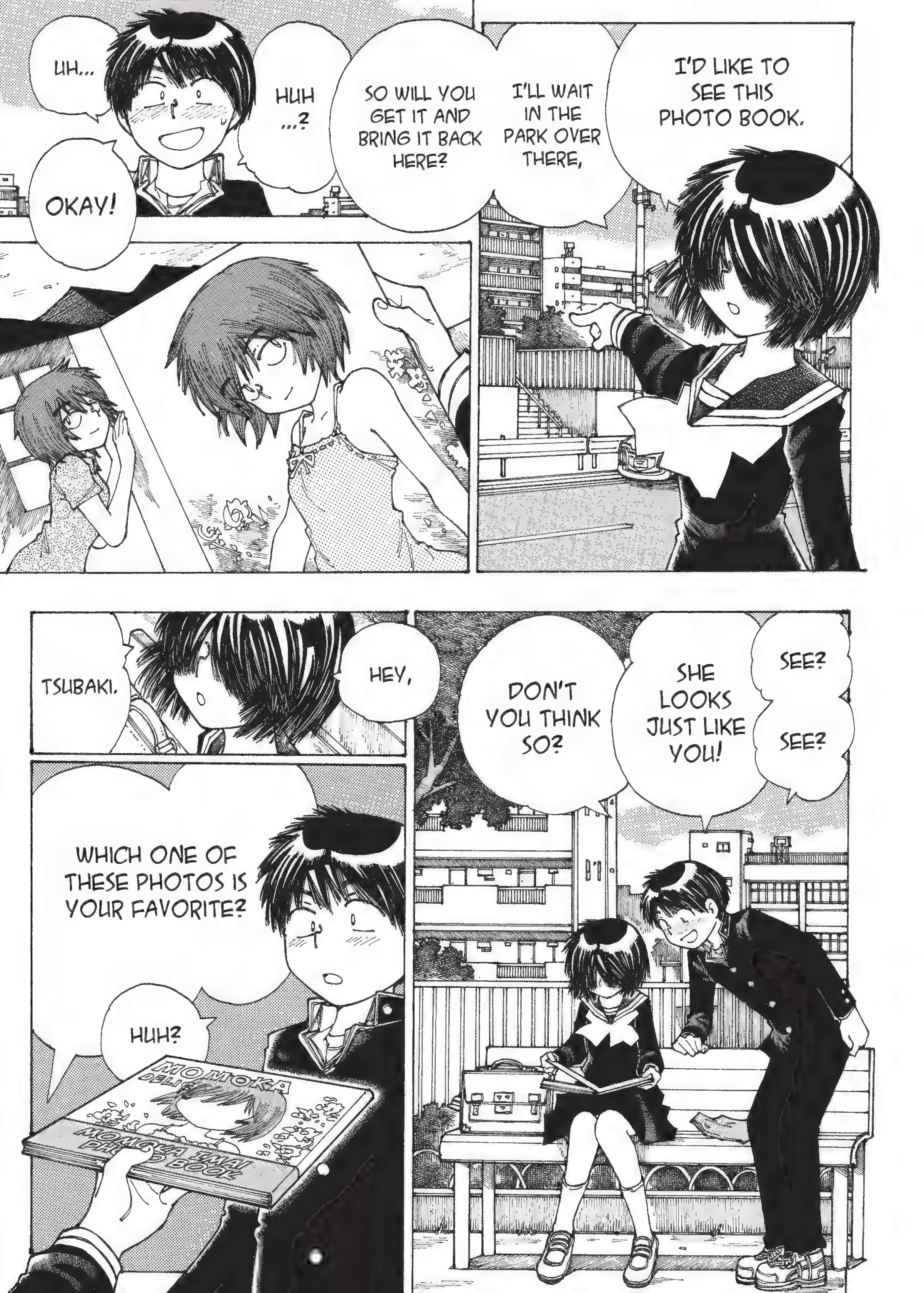

WHAT?
THE BOYS ARE SELLING PHOTOS OF URABE?
YOU KNOW NAKAJIMA FROM THE PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB? HE'S SELLING SNEAKY SHOTS HE TOOK OF HER FOR 300 YEN EACH.
OH...
AND DID YOU BUY
A PHOTO OF URABE?
NO, I DIDN'T.
SINCE...
I HAVE YOU...

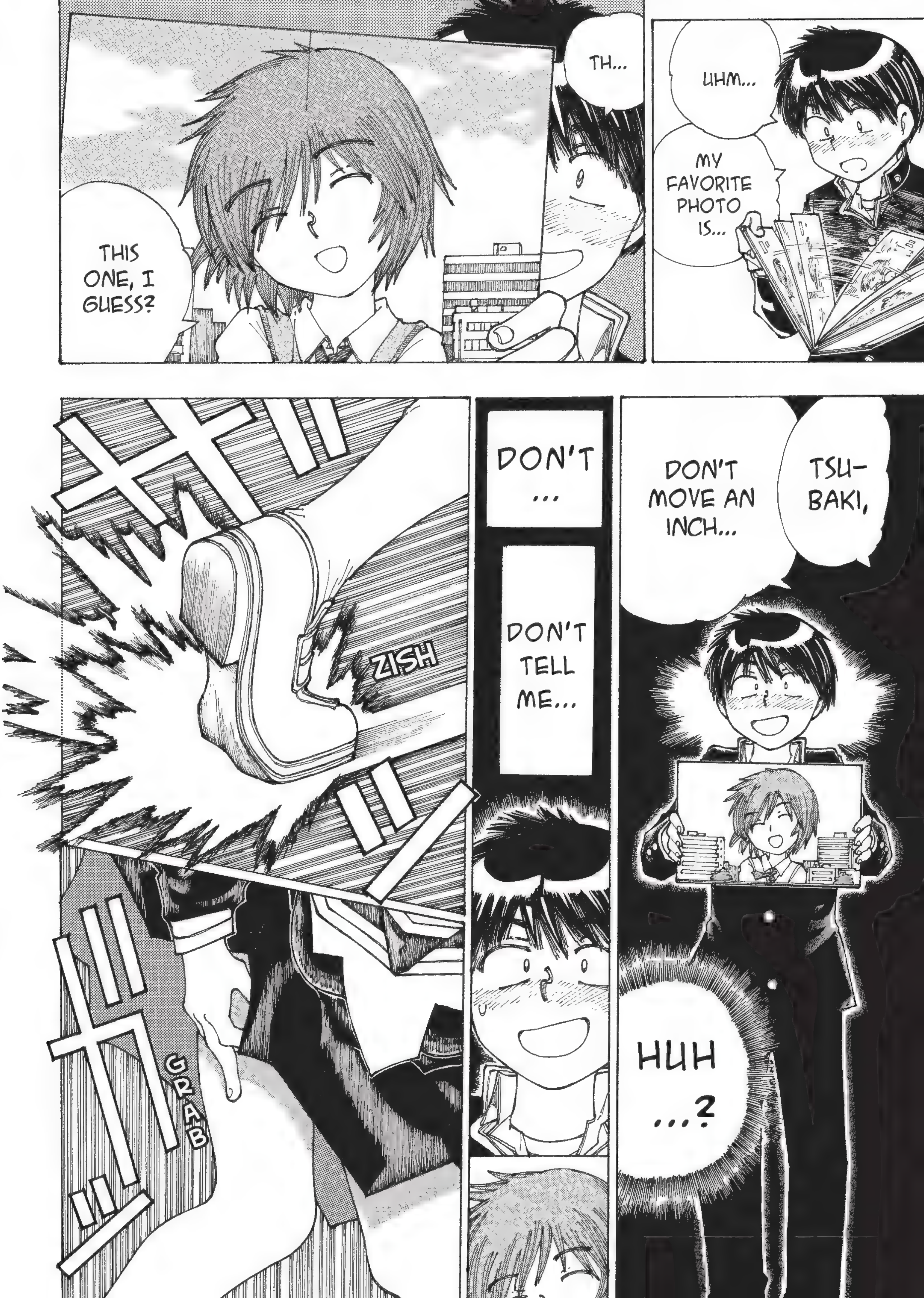

WELL,
THEN,
OH ...?
WHAT ABOUT TSUBAKI?
DID HE BUY ANY?
HUH?
TSUBAKI?
NO, HE DIDN'T BUY ANY, EITHER.
HMM ...
REALLY?
HE DIDN'T BUY ANY,
BUT I'M PRETTY SURE
URABE'S LOOKS ARE HIS TYPE.
HUH?
HOW CAN YOU TELL?
WELL,
ON THE WAY HOME THAT DAY,
I SAW HIM BUYING MOMOKA IMAI'S PHOTO BOOK!
MOMOKA IMAI?
YOU DON'T KNOW HER? SHE'S AN IDOL WHO'S POPULAR LATELY.
SHE LOOKS A LOT LIKE URABE.
WOW...

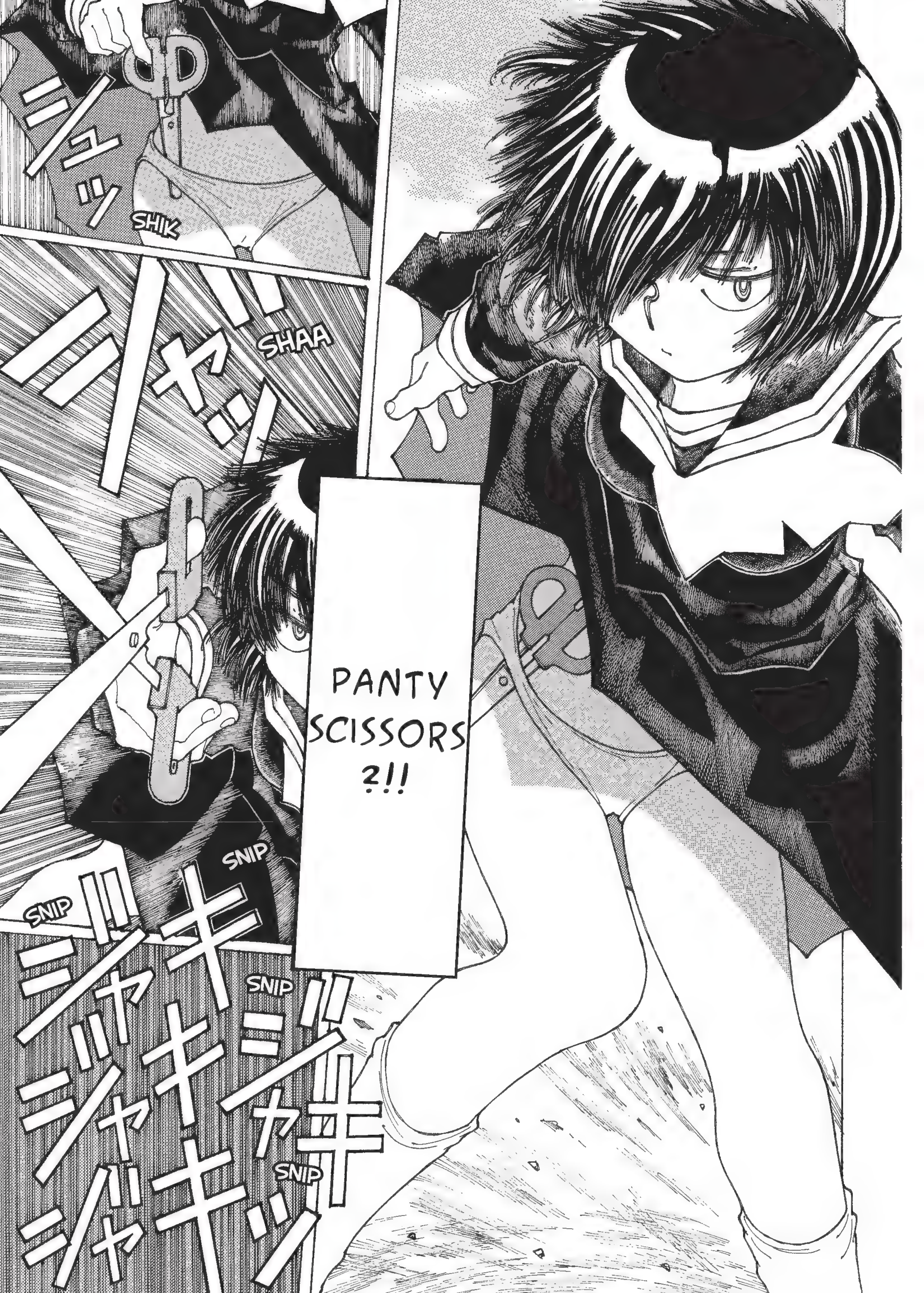

U
RA
BE
!
WHAT ?
SWSH
かばっ
IT'S TRUE !
YOU LOOK
JUST LIKE MOMOKA IMAI!
WEEKLY TV CITY
SPECIAL! COMMERCIAL IDOL
MOMOKA IMAI
HUH ?
MOMOKA IMAI?
WHO'S THAT?

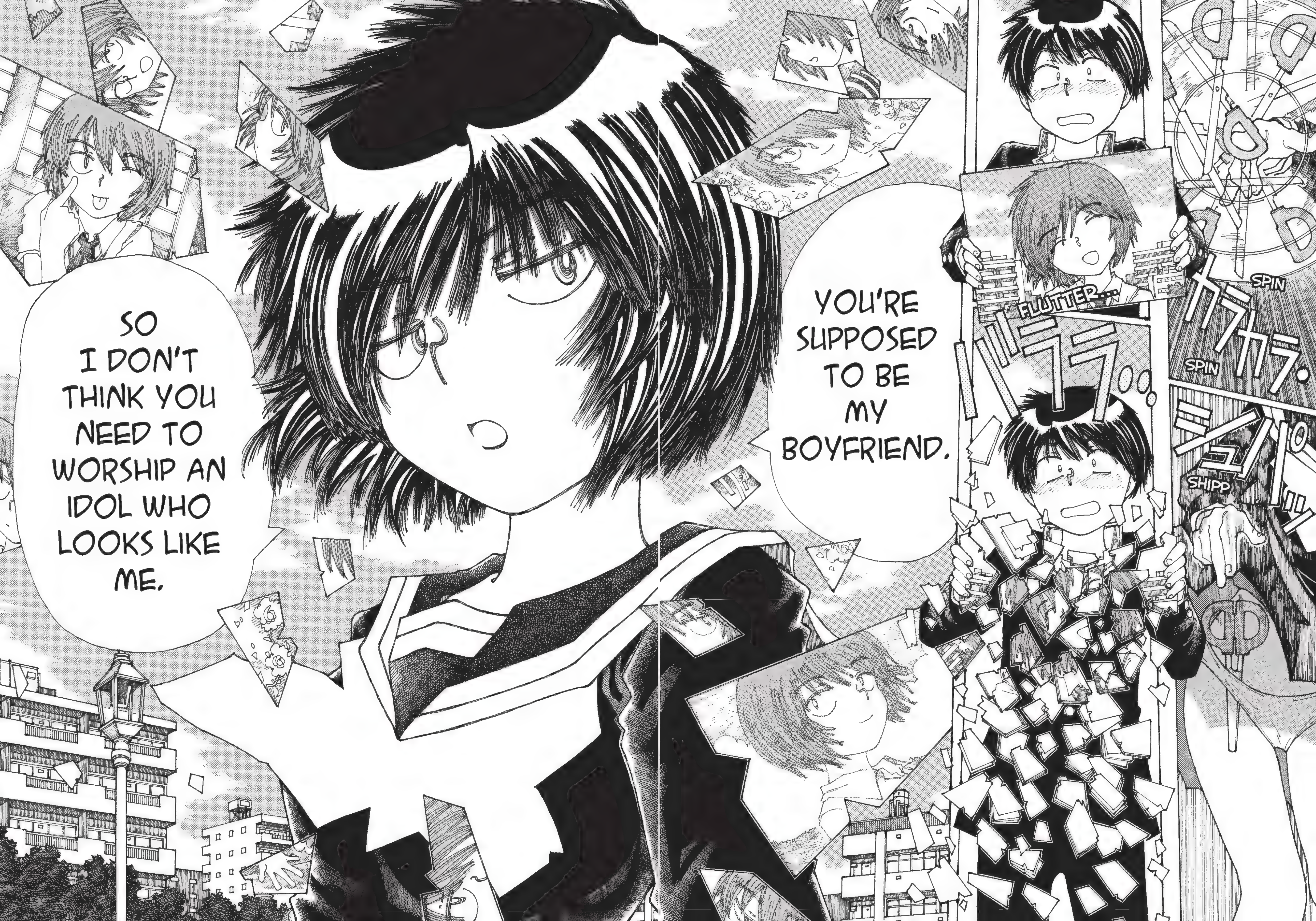

AN IDOL WHO'S REALLY POPULAR RIGHT NOW.
SEEING YOU LIKE THIS, YOU REALLY LOOK LIKE HER!
WEEKLY TV C
AN IDOL WHO LOOKS LIKE ME...?
GRIP
!!
UENO TOLD ME THAT TSUBAKI BOUGHT HER PHOTO BOOK.
HE MUST'VE BOUGHT IT BECAUSE SHE LOOKS LIKE YOU.
WEEKLY TV CITY 5/25
SPECIAL! COMMERCIAL IDOL
MOMOKA IMAI
WHSH
SHLP...
BYE, URABE!
SEE YOU TOMORROW!
WAIT,
TSUBAKI!

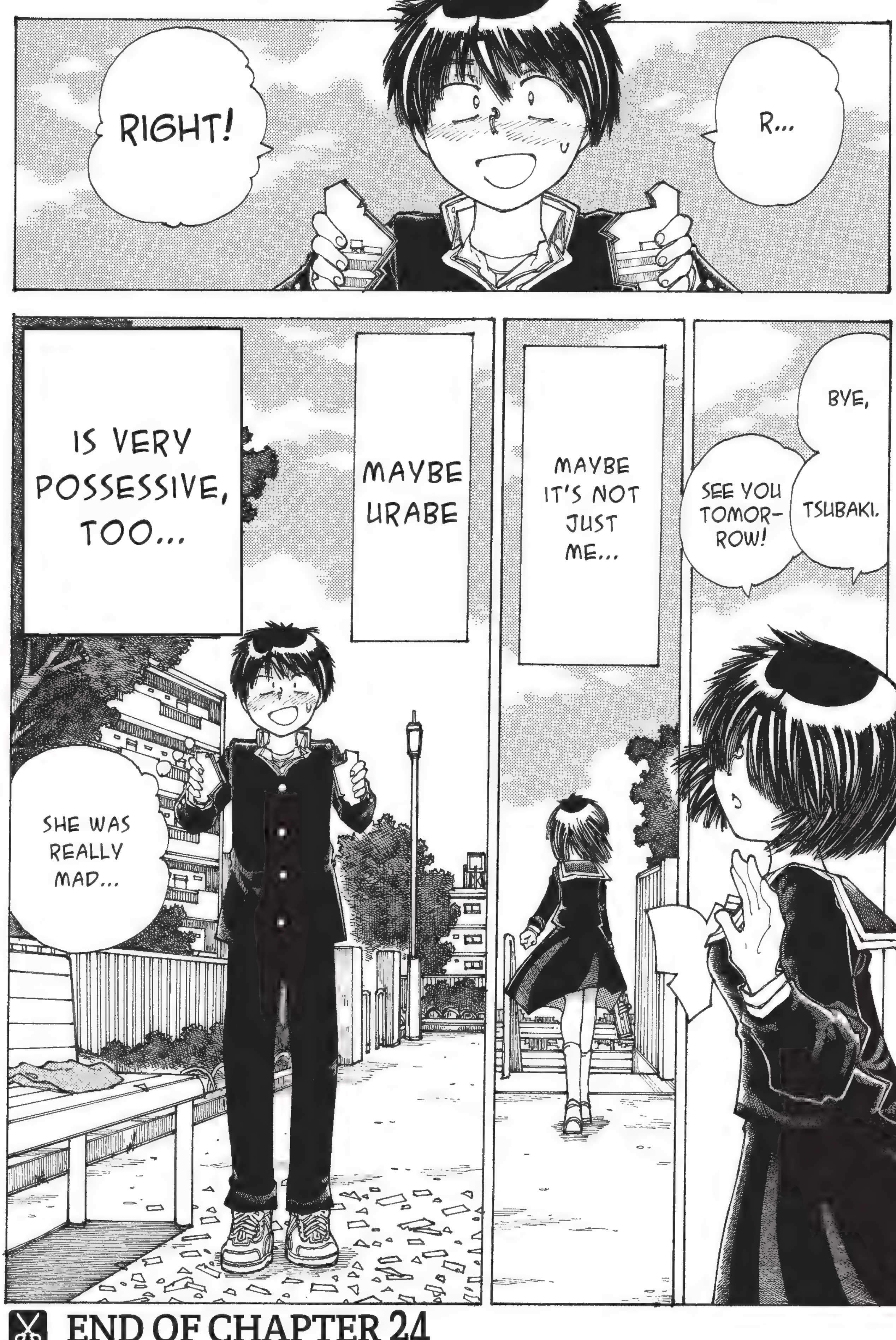

TSUBAKI,
YOU BOUGHT MOMOKA IMAI'S
PHOTO BOOK, RIGHT?
HUH ...?
HOW ...
HOW DID YOU KNOW?
OKA TOLD ME...
UENO
OKA
URABE
THIS WAS THE ROUTE?!
I SHOULD HAVE TOLD UENO TO KEEP HIS MOUTH SHUT...
DOES THAT IDOL
LOOK LIKE ME?
UH...
Y...
YEAH, SHE DOES.
ゴホッ
KOFF
IN OTHER WORDS,
I BOUGHT HER PHOTO BOOK BECAUSE SHE LOOKS JUST LIKE YOU.
I ONLY LIKE THAT IDOL BECAUSE I LIKE YOU, AND SO...
WELL ...


I'D LIKE TO SEE THIS PHOTO BOOK.
I'LL WAIT IN THE PARK OVER THERE,
SO WILL YOU GET IT AND BRING IT BACK HERE?
HUH ...?
UH...
OKAY!
SEE?
SEE?
SHE LOOKS JUST LIKE YOU!
DON'T YOU THINK SO?
HEY,
TSUBAKI.
WHICH ONE OF THESE PHOTOS IS YOUR FAVORITE?
HUH?
MOMOKA
MOMOKA IMAI PHOTO BOOK


UHM...
MY FAVORITE PHOTO IS...
TH...
THIS ONE, I GUESS?
TSU-BAKI,
DON'T MOVE AN INCH...
HUH ...?
DON'T ...
DON'T TELL ME...
ZISH
GRAB


PANTY SCISSORS ?!!
シュッ
SHIK
シャッ
SHAA
SNIP
SNIP
SNIP
SNIP
ジャキジャキッ
ジャキジャキ

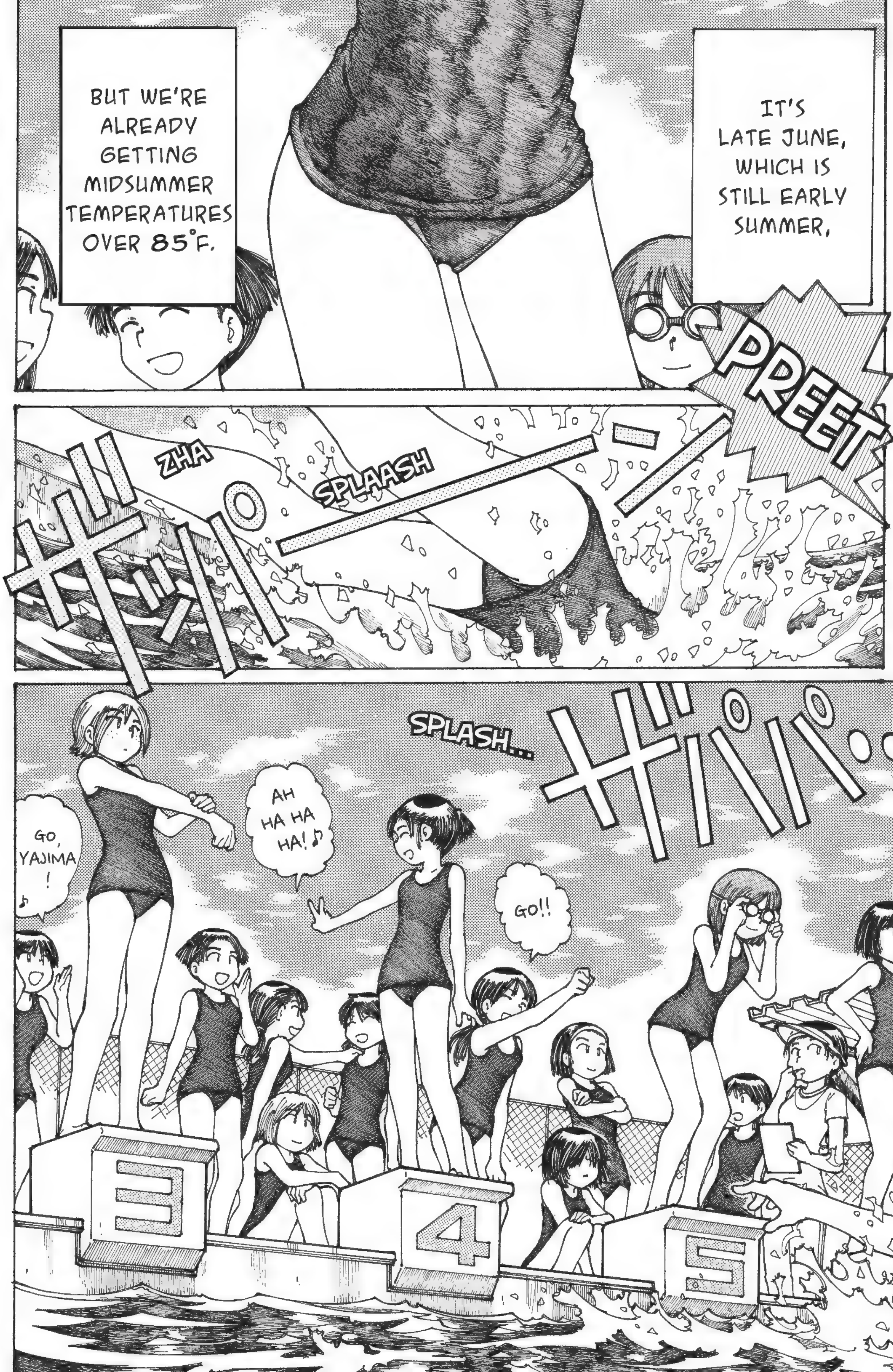

YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE MY BOYFRIEND.
SPIN
カラカラ・
SPIN
FLUTTER...
バラララ。。。
シュパッ
SHIPP
SO I DON'T THINK YOU NEED TO WORSHIP AN IDOL WHO LOOKS LIKE ME.

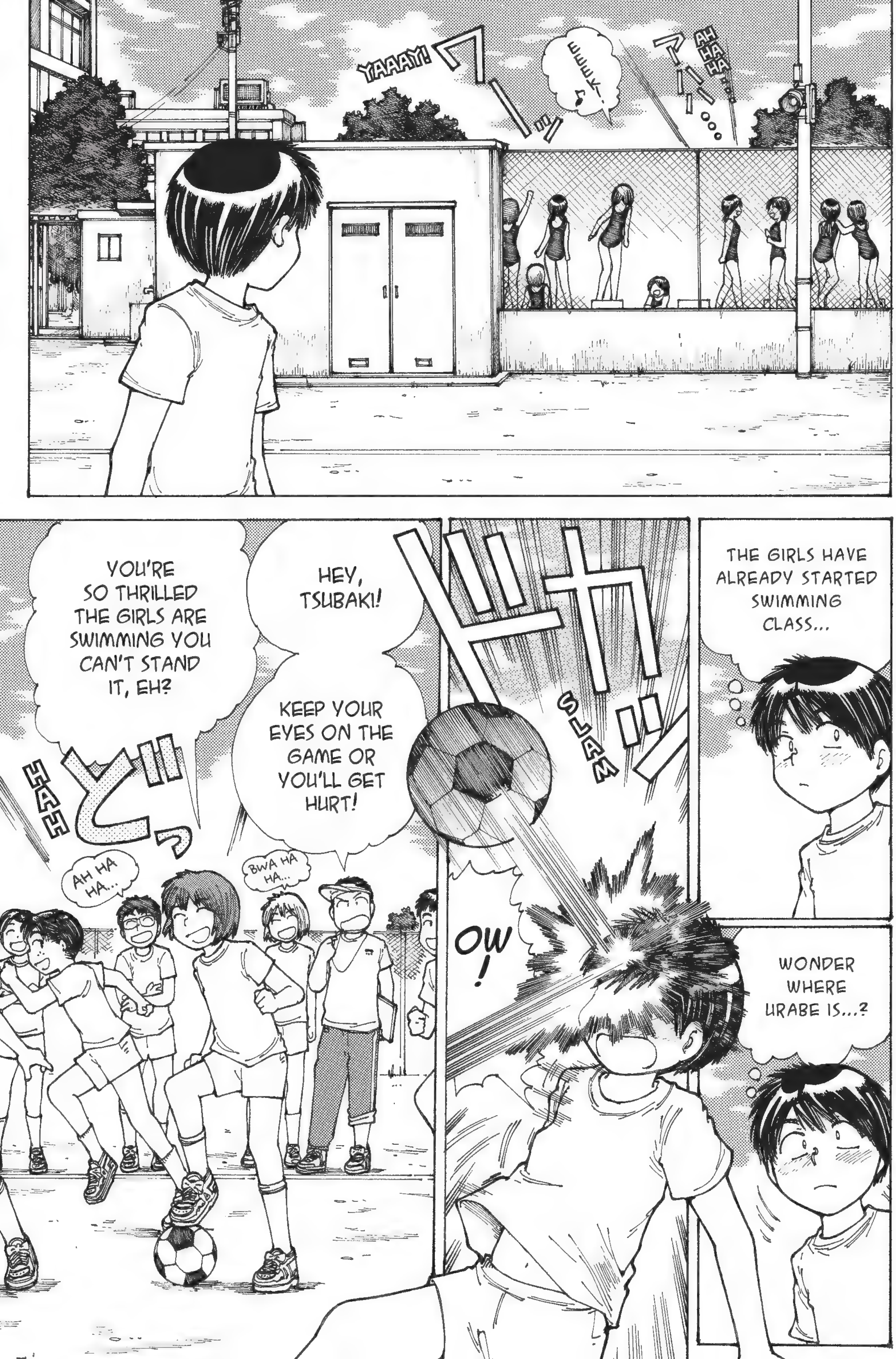

R...
RIGHT!
BYE,
TSUBAKI.
SEE YOU TOMORROW!
MAYBE IT'S NOT JUST ME...
MAYBE URABE
IS VERY POSSESSIVE, TOO...
SHE WAS REALLY MAD...

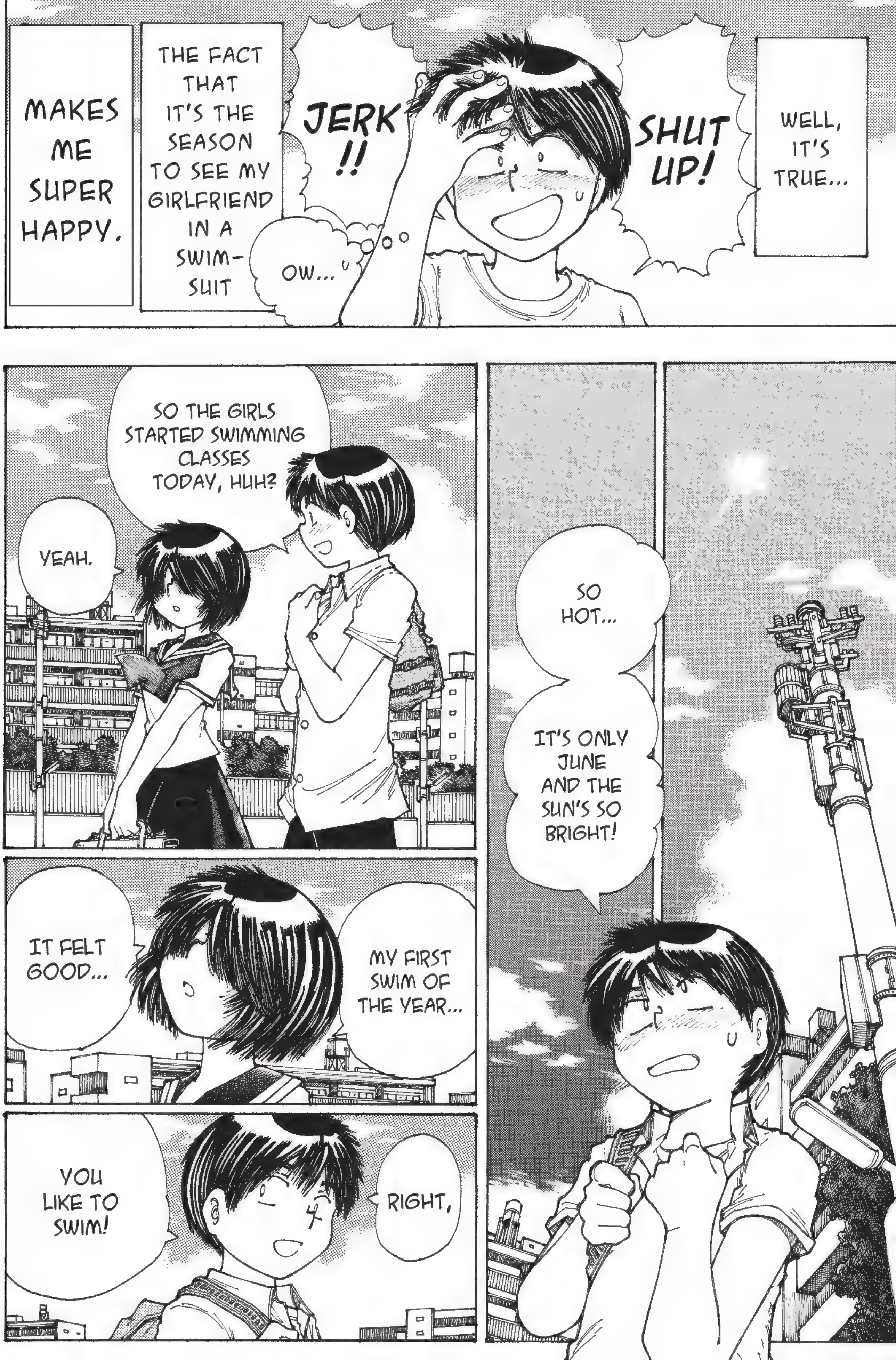
END OF CHAPTER 24

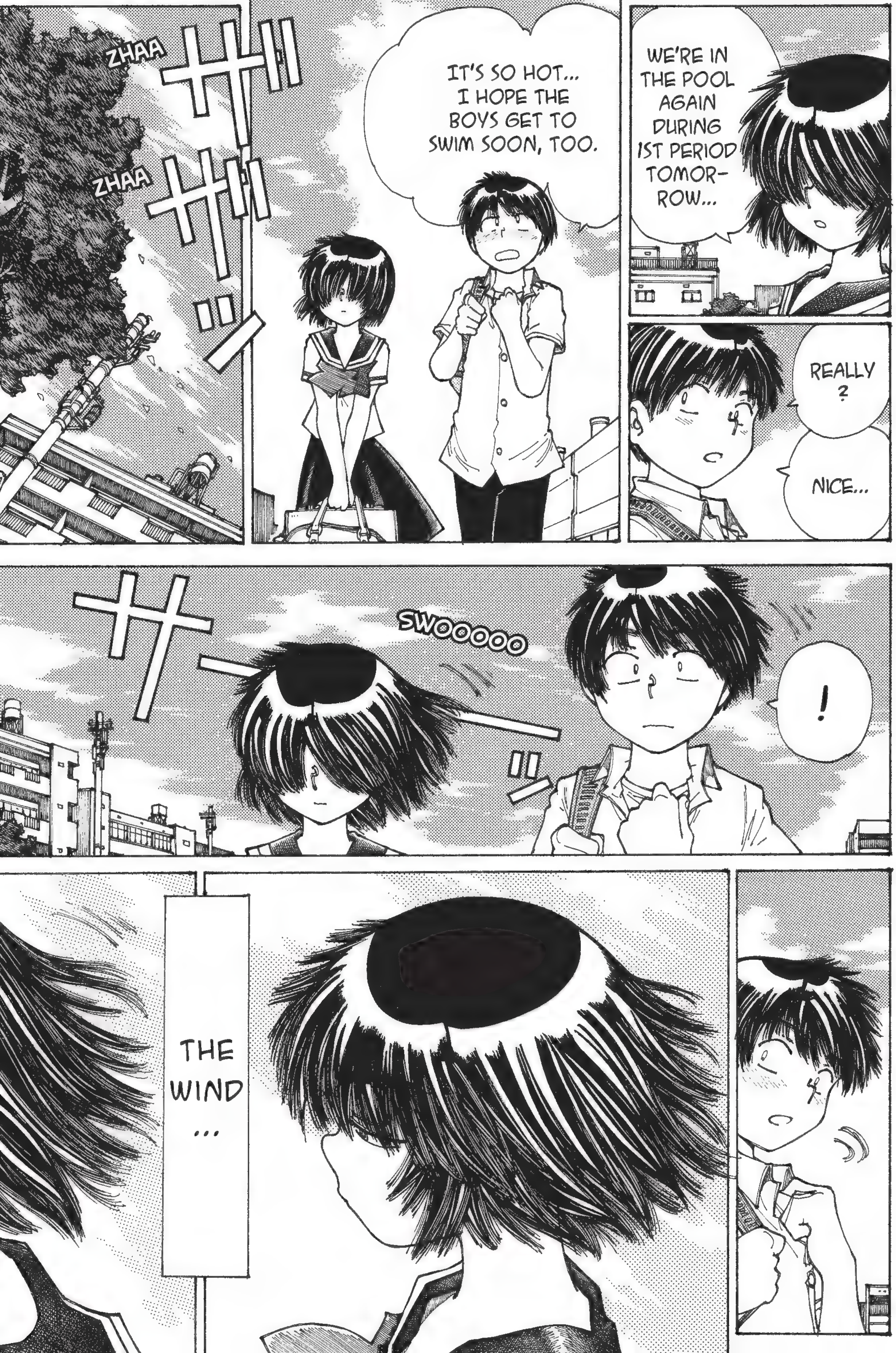
Mysterious
Mysterious
BAD CAT

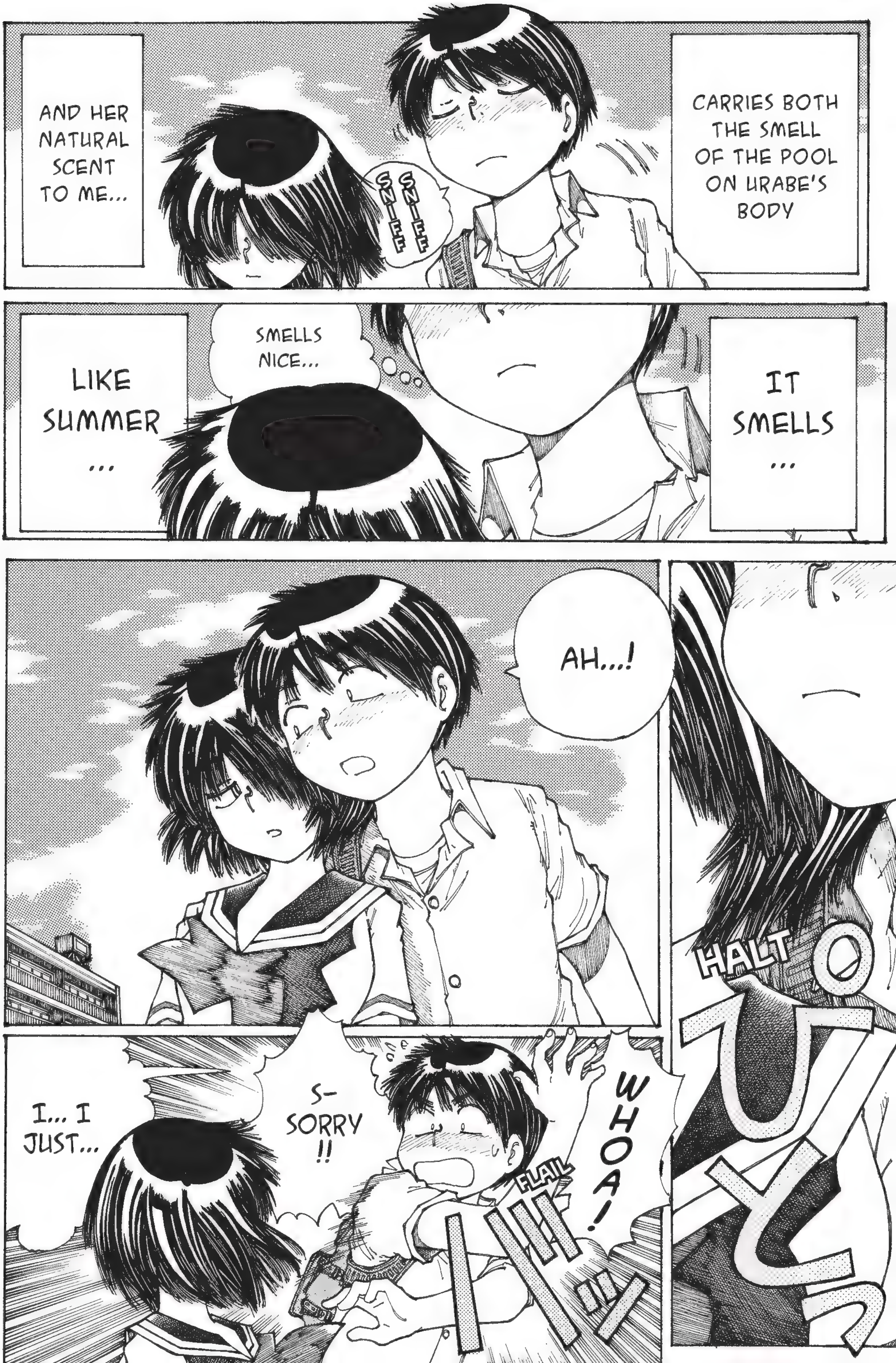
CHAPTER 25: MYSTERIOUS MOMENT

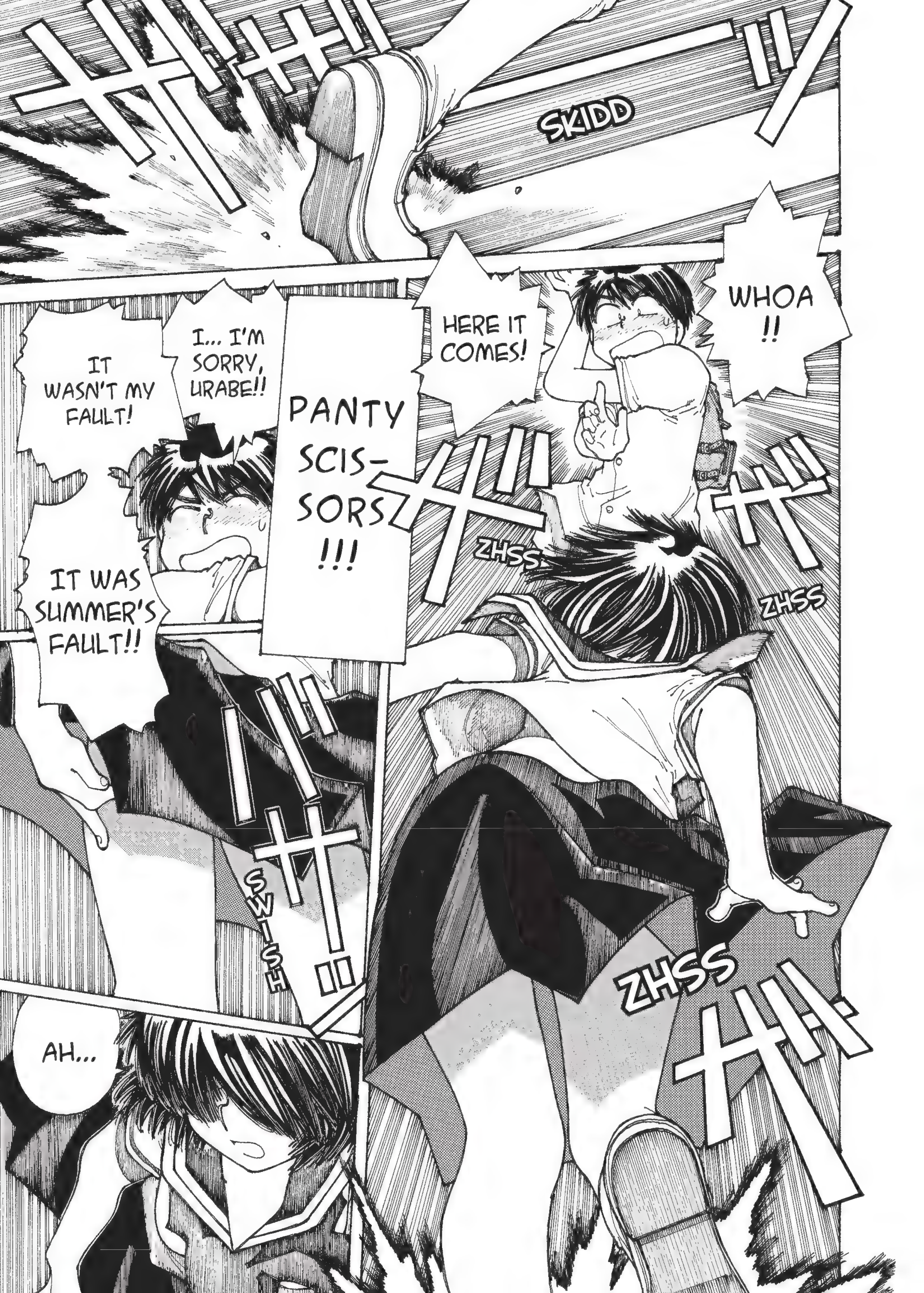

IT'S LATE JUNE, WHICH IS STILL EARLY SUMMER,
BUT WE'RE ALREADY GETTING MIDSUMMER TEMPERATURES OVER 85°F.
PREET
ZHA
SPLAASH
ザッパー
SPLASH...
ザパパ・・
GO!!
AH HA HA HA! ♪
GO, YAJIMA! ♪

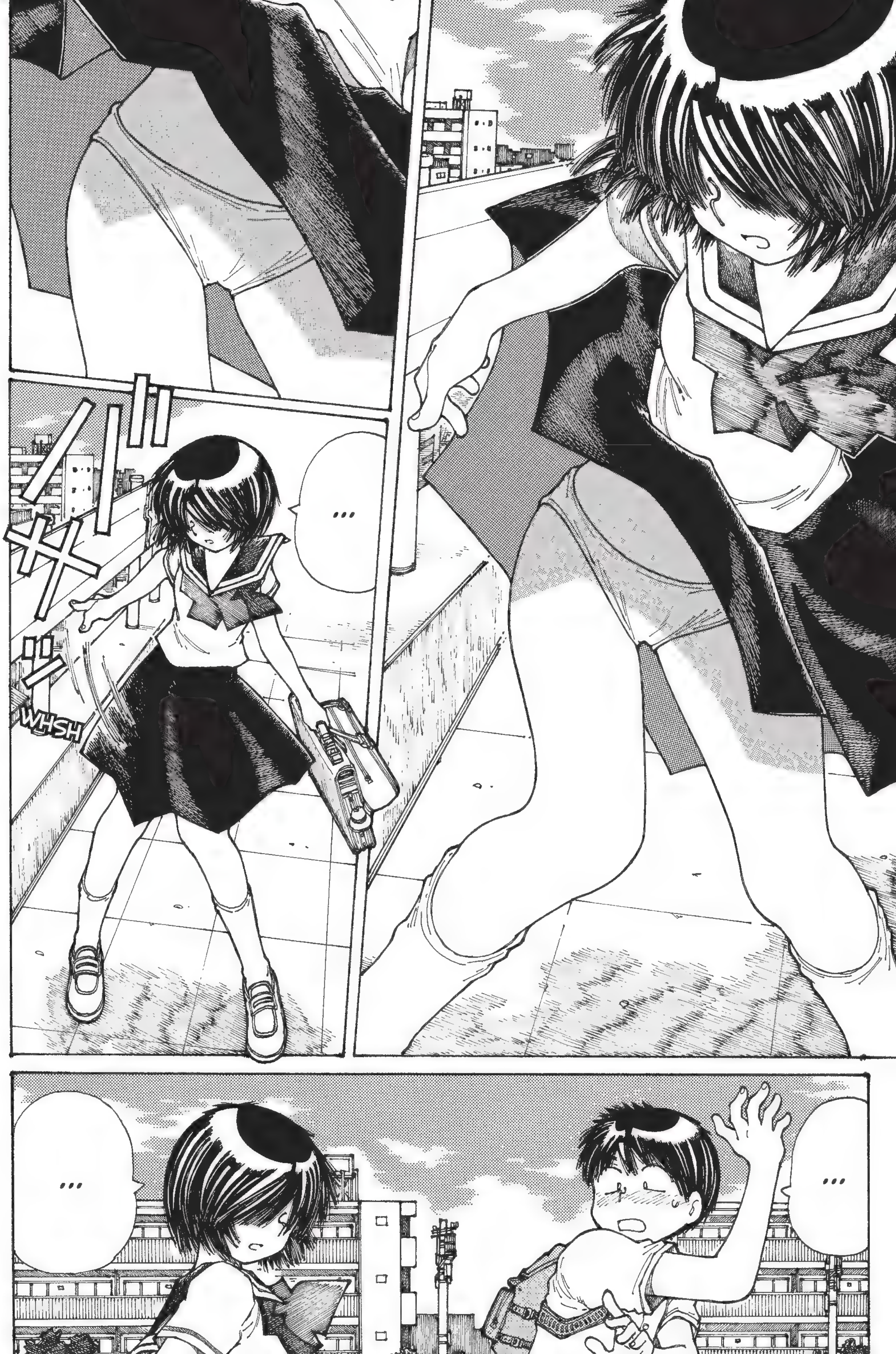

AH HA HA HA...
EEEK! ♪
YAAAY!
THE GIRLS HAVE ALREADY STARTED SWIMMING CLASS...
WONDER WHERE URABE IS...?
SLAM
OW!
HEY, TSUBAKI!
KEEP YOUR EYES ON THE GAME OR YOU'LL GET HURT!
YOU'RE SO THRILLED THE GIRLS ARE SWIMMING YOU CAN'T STAND IT, EH?
BWA HA HA...
AH HA HA...
HAH

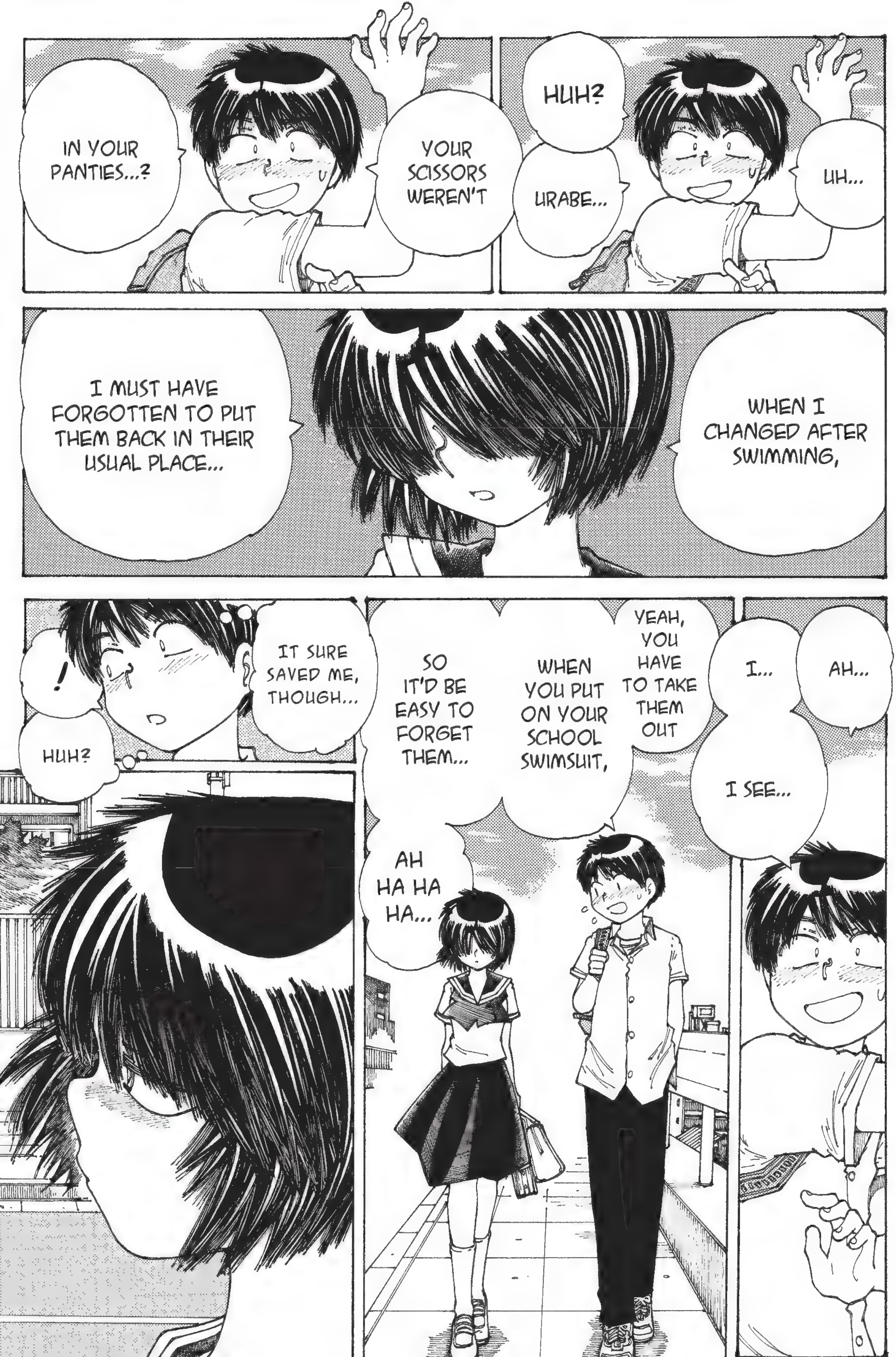

WELL, IT'S TRUE...
SHUT UP!
JERK!!
OW...
THE FACT THAT IT'S THE SEASON TO SEE MY GIRLFRIEND IN A SWIMSUIT
MAKES ME SUPER HAPPY.
SO HOT...
IT'S ONLY JUNE AND THE SUN'S SO BRIGHT!
SO THE GIRLS STARTED SWIMMING CLASSES TODAY, HUH?
YEAH.
MY FIRST SWIM OF THE YEAR...
IT FELT GOOD...
RIGHT,
YOU LIKE TO SWIM!

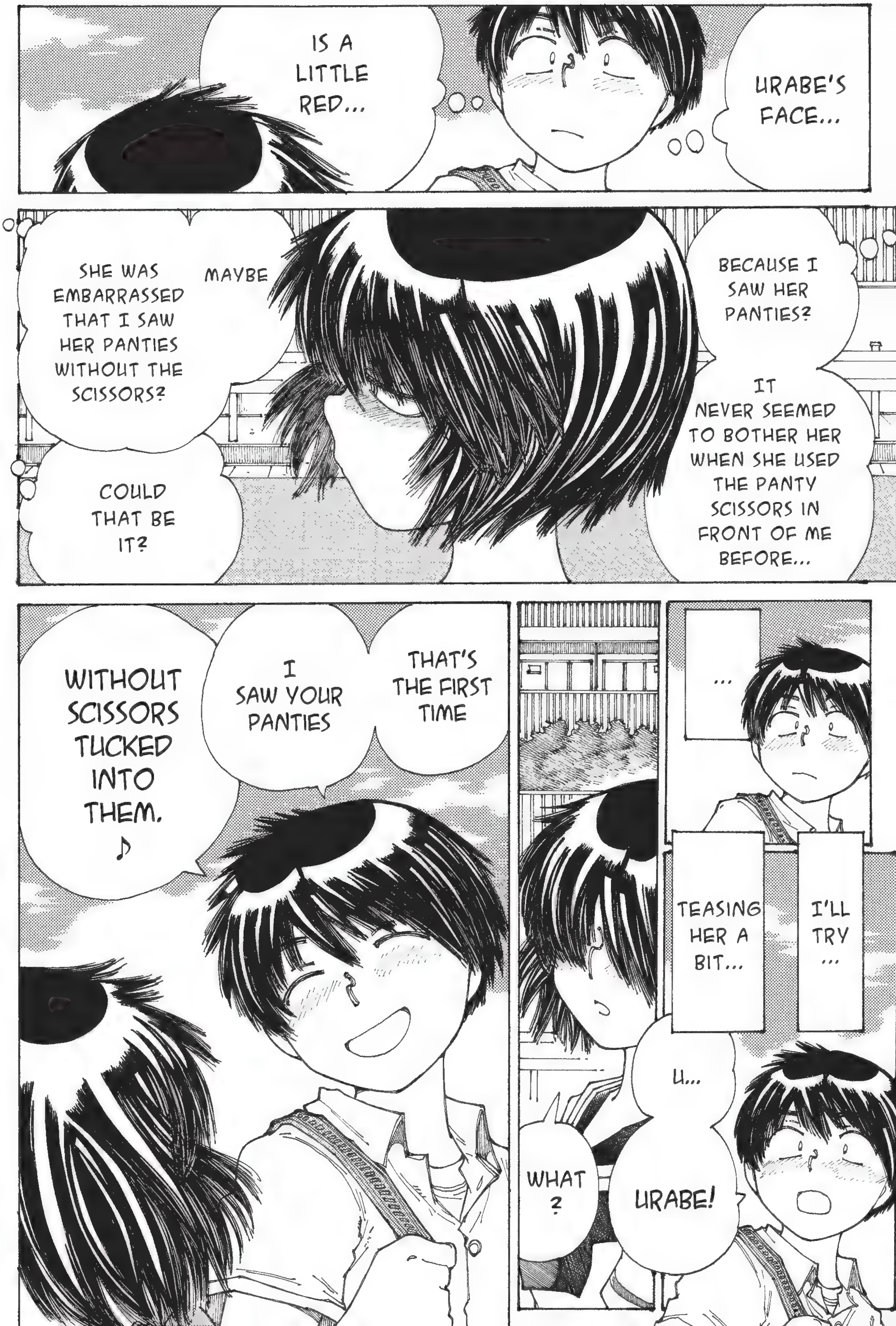

WE'RE IN THE POOL AGAIN DURING 1ST PERIOD TOMORROW...
REALLY?
NICE...
IT'S SO HOT... I HOPE THE BOYS GET TO SWIM SOON, TOO.
ZHAA
ZHAA
SWOOOOOO
!
THE WIND...

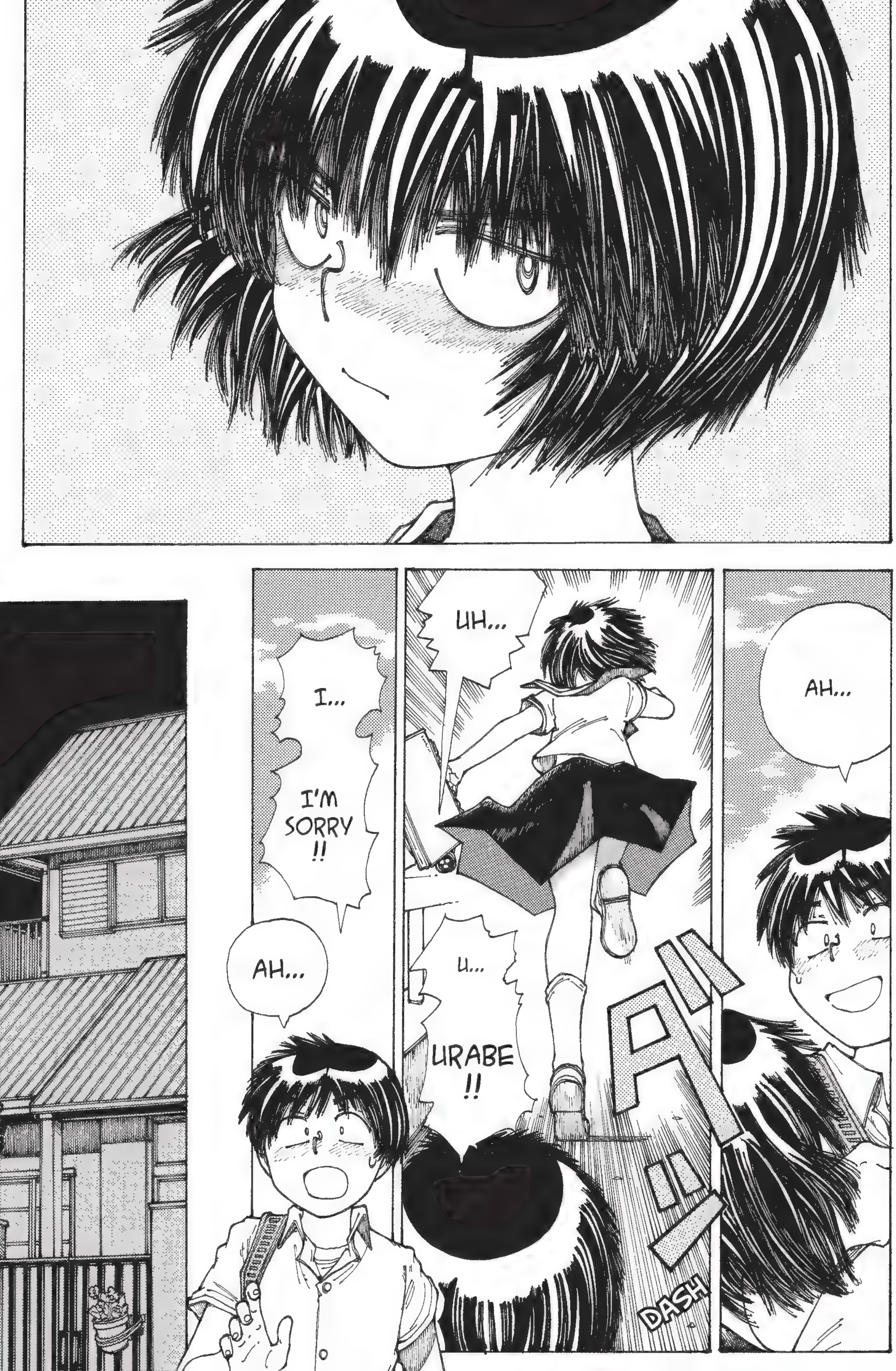

CARRIES BOTH THE SMELL OF THE POOL ON URABE'S BODY
SNIFF SNIFF
AND HER NATURAL SCENT TO ME...
IT SMELLS ...
SMELLS NICE...
LIKE SUMMER ...
HALT
ぴくっ
AH...!
WHOA!
FLAIL
バッ
S-SORRY !!
I... I JUST...

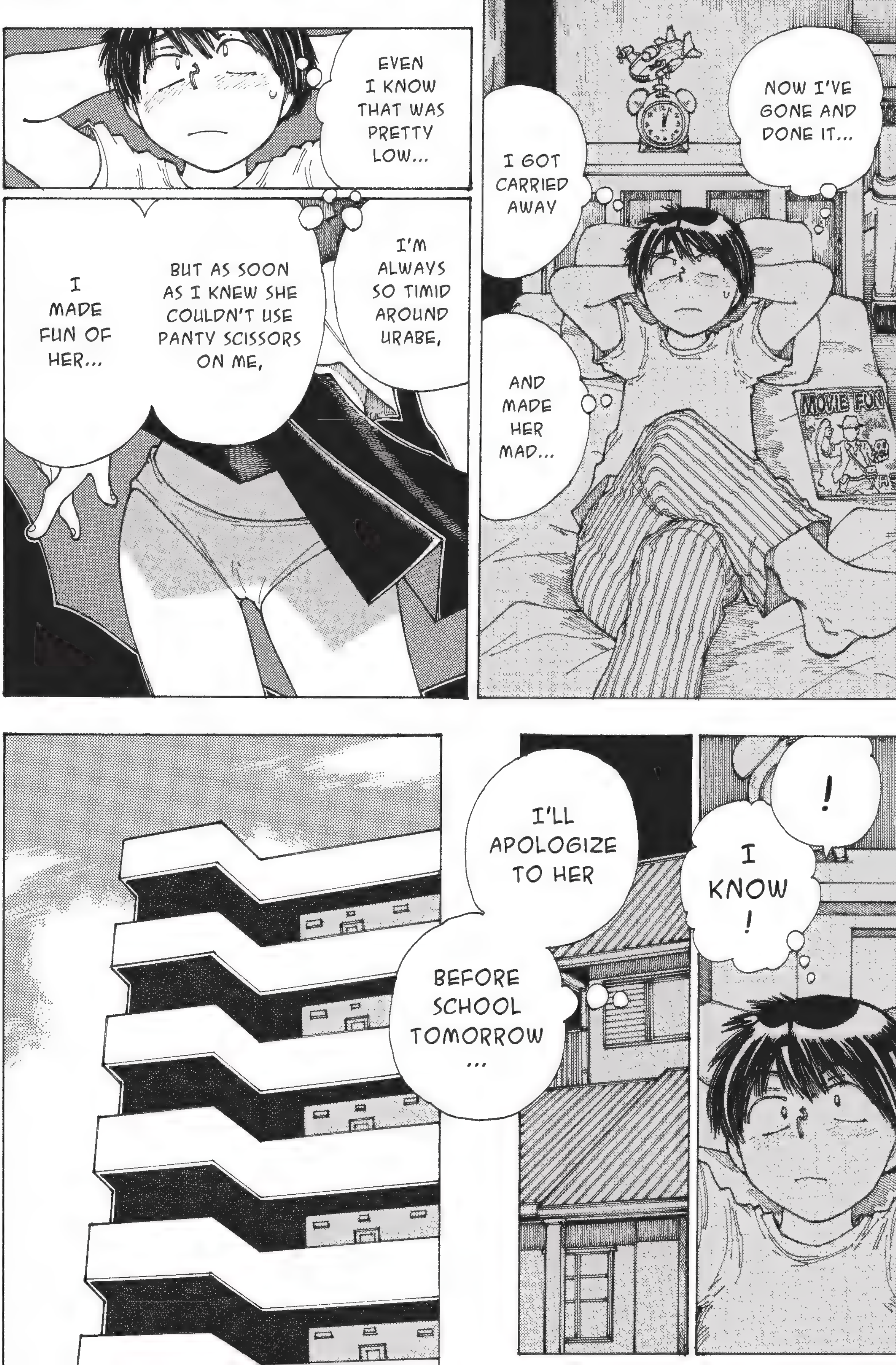

SKIDD
WHOA !!
HERE IT COMES!
PANTY SCISSORS!!!
I... I'M SORRY, URABE!!
IT WASN'T MY FAULT!
IT WAS SUMMER'S FAULT!!
ZHSS
ZHSS
SWISH
ZHSS
AH...

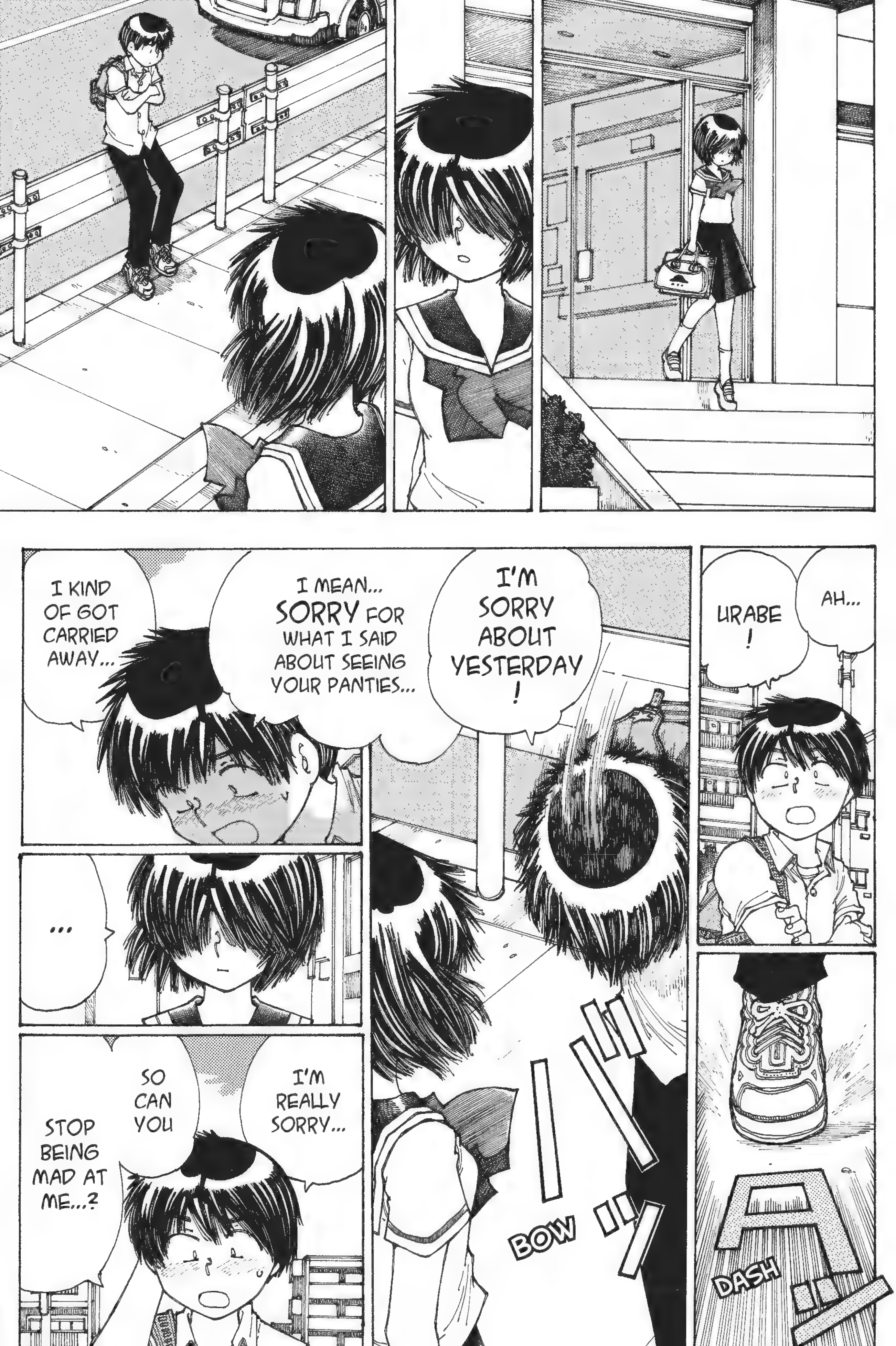

...
バサッ
WHSH
...
...

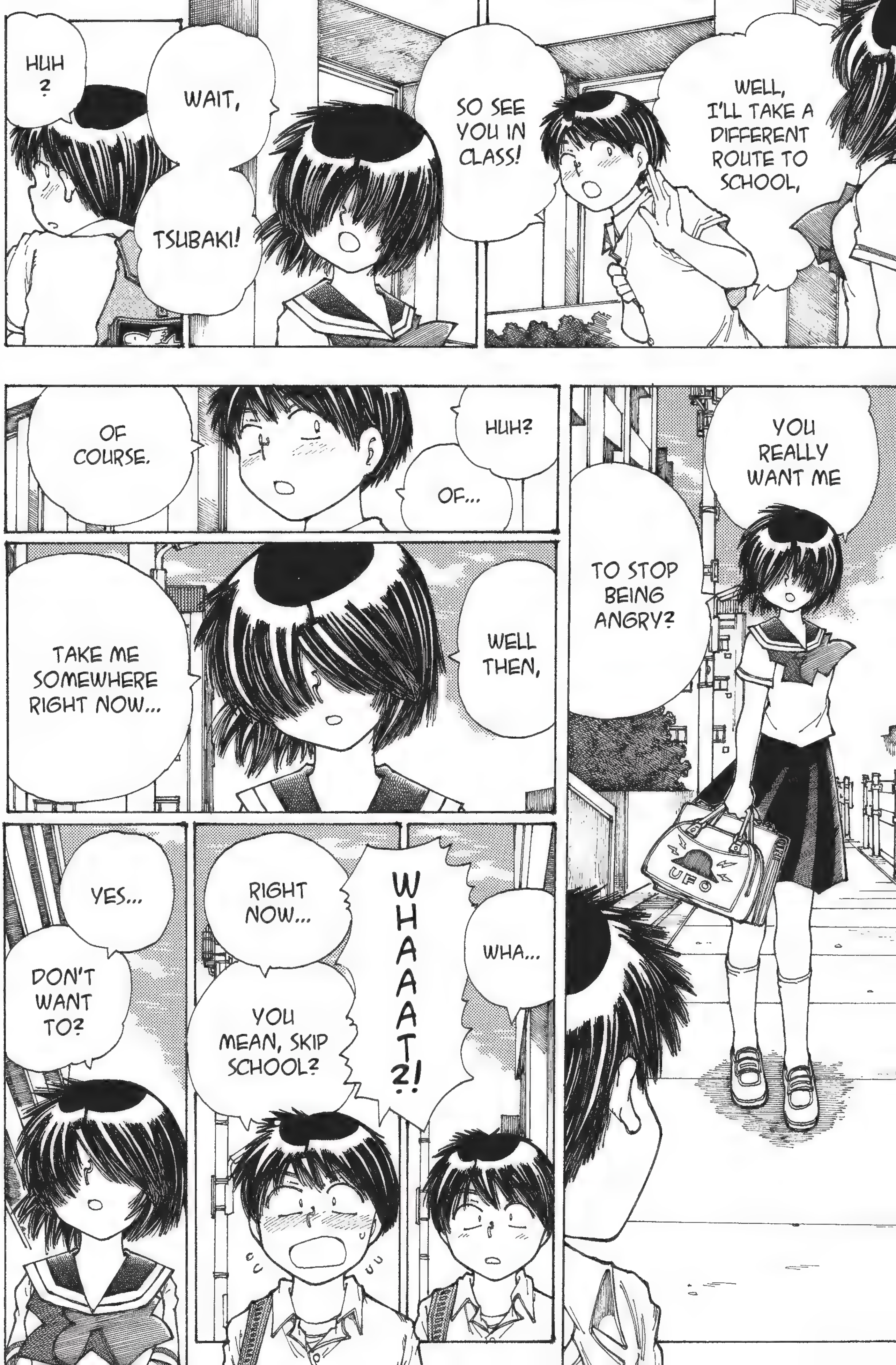

HUH?
UH...
URABE...
YOUR SCISSORS WEREN'T
IN YOUR PANTIES...?
WHEN I CHANGED AFTER SWIMMING,
I MUST HAVE FORGOTTEN TO PUT THEM BACK IN THEIR USUAL PLACE...
AH...
I...
I SEE...
YEAH, YOU HAVE TO TAKE THEM OUT
WHEN YOU PUT ON YOUR SCHOOL SWIMSUIT,
SO IT'D BE EASY TO FORGET THEM...
AH HA HA HA...
IT SURE SAVED ME, THOUGH...
!
HUH?

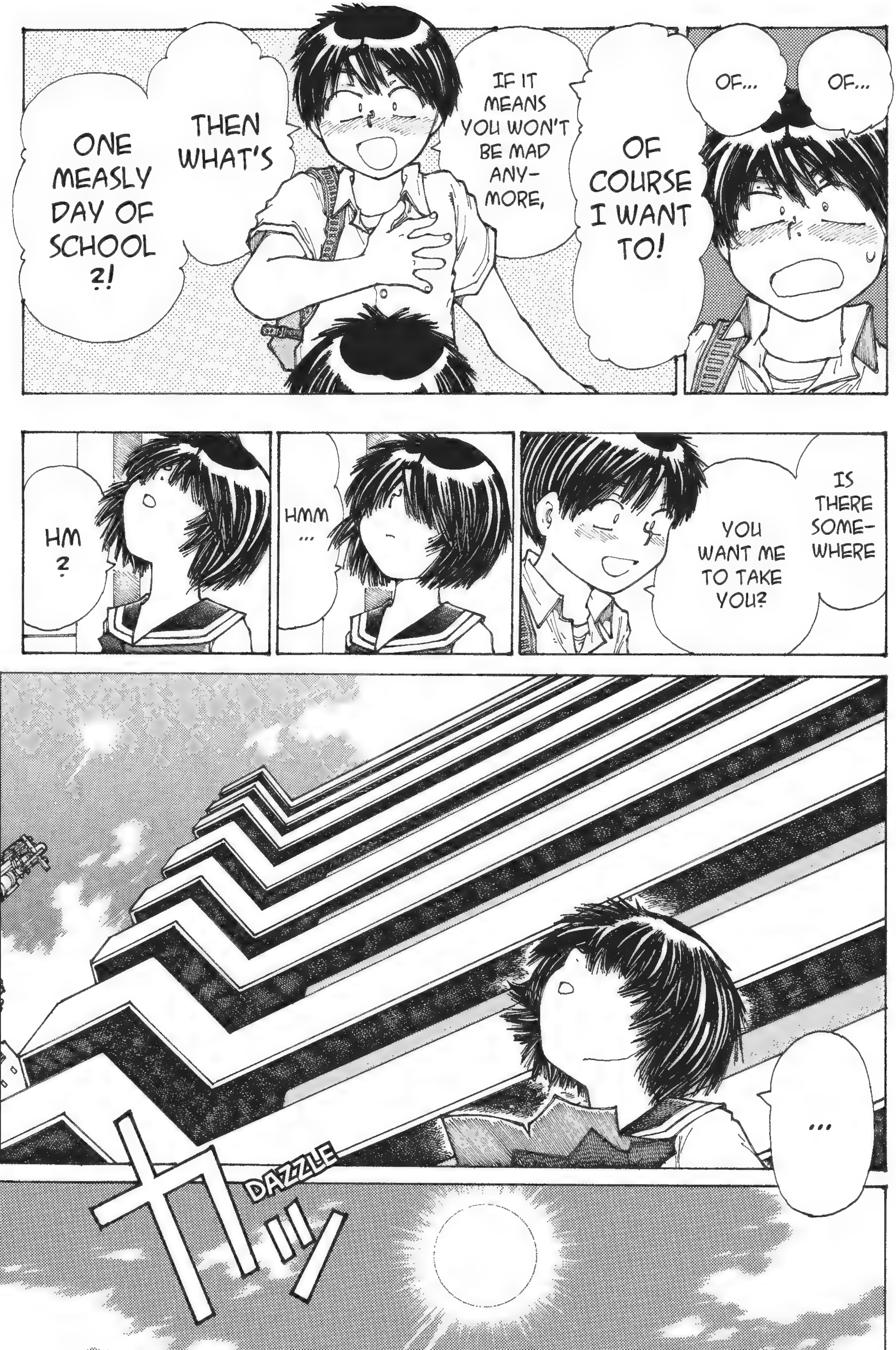

URABE'S FACE...
IS A LITTLE RED...
BECAUSE I SAW HER PANTIES?
IT NEVER SEEMED TO BOTHER HER WHEN SHE USED THE PANTY SCISSORS IN FRONT OF ME BEFORE...
MAYBE
SHE WAS EMBARRASSED THAT I SAW HER PANTIES WITHOUT THE SCISSORS?
COULD THAT BE IT?
...
I'LL TRY...
TEASING HER A BIT...
U...
URABE!
WHAT?
THAT'S THE FIRST TIME
I SAW YOUR PANTIES
WITHOUT SCISSORS TUCKED INTO THEM. ♪

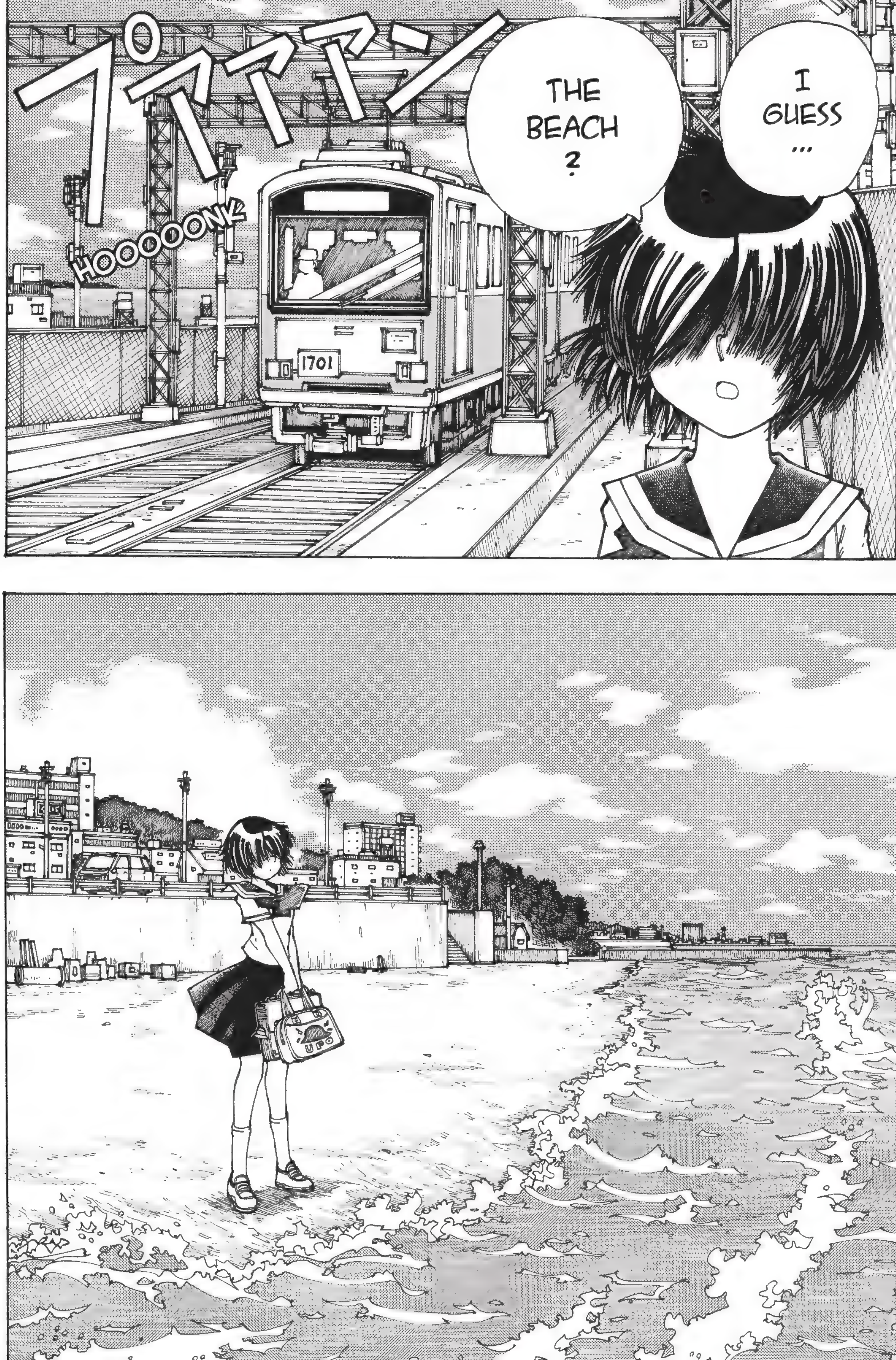

AH...
UH...
I...
I'M SORRY!!
U...
URABE!!
DASH
AH...

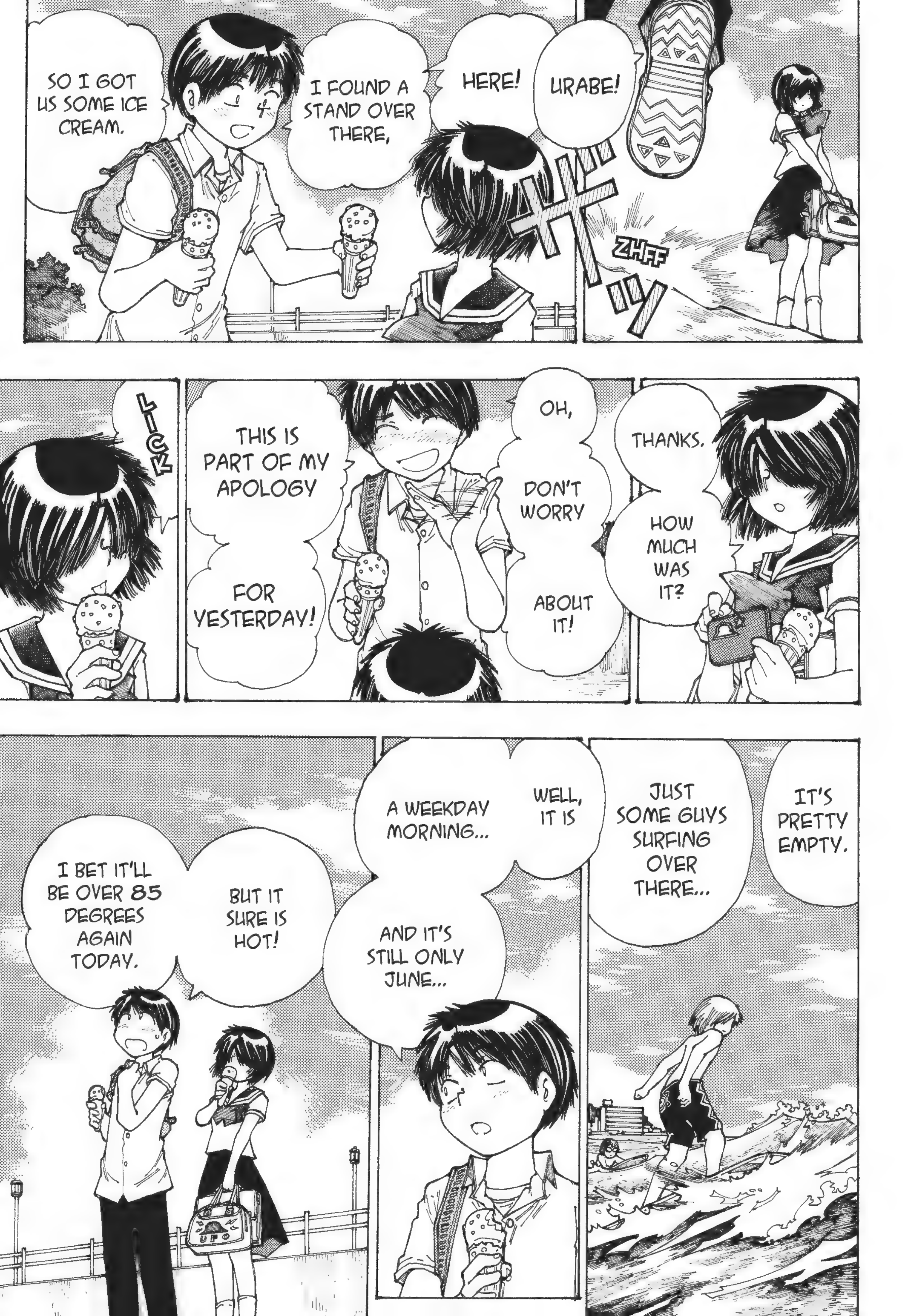

NOW I'VE GONE AND DONE IT...
I GOT CARRIED AWAY
AND MADE HER MAD...
MOVIE FUN
EVEN I KNOW THAT WAS PRETTY LOW...
I'M ALWAYS SO TIMID AROUND URABE,
BUT AS SOON AS I KNEW SHE COULDN'T USE PANTY SCISSORS ON ME,
I MADE FUN OF HER...
!
I KNOW!
I'LL APOLOGIZE TO HER
BEFORE SCHOOL TOMORROW...

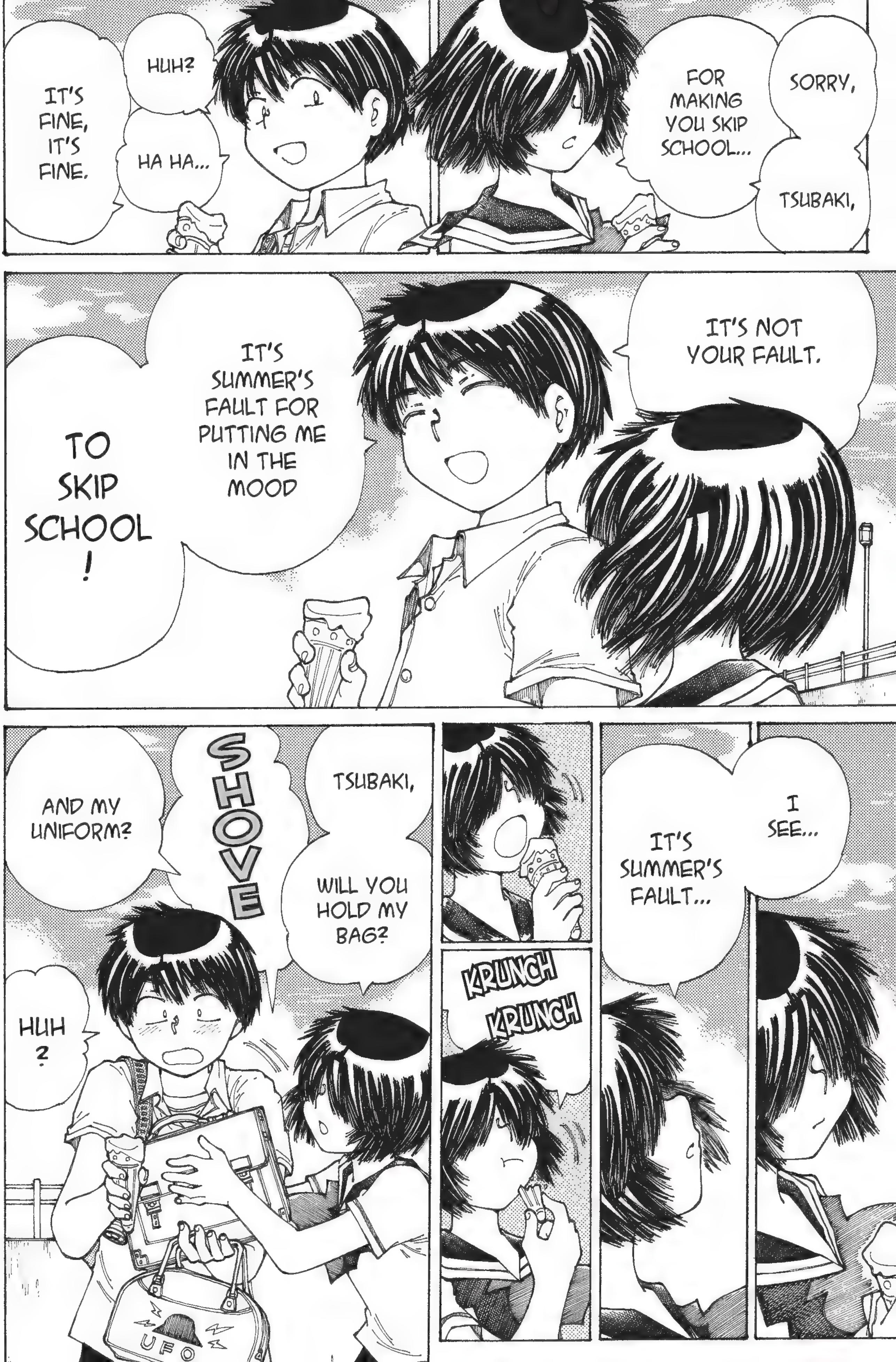

AH...
URABE!
DASH
I'M SORRY ABOUT YESTERDAY!
BOW
I MEAN... SORRY FOR WHAT I SAID ABOUT SEEING YOUR PANTIES...
I KIND OF GOT CARRIED AWAY...
...
I'M REALLY SORRY...
SO CAN YOU
STOP BEING MAD AT ME...?

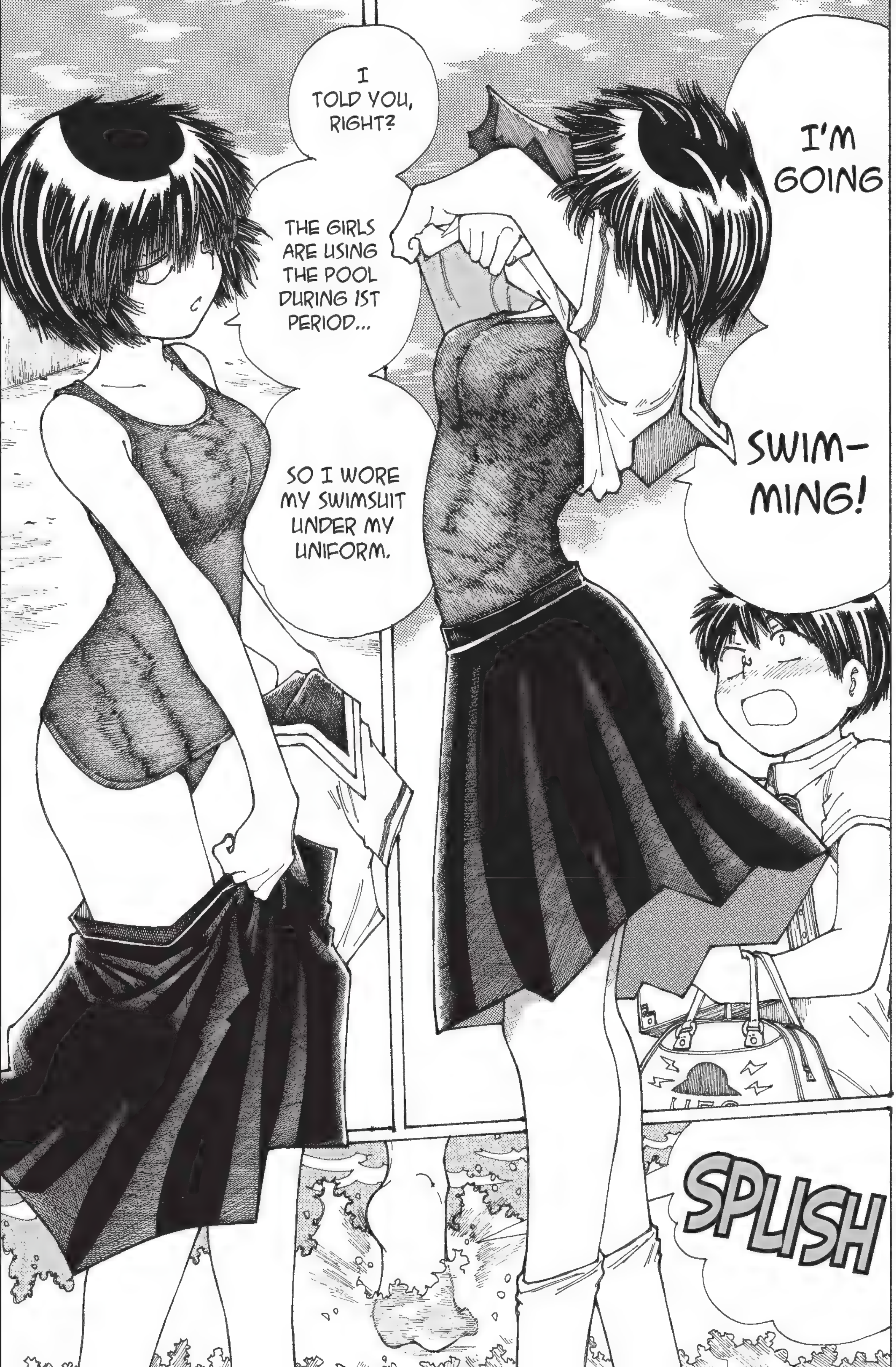

WELL, I'LL TAKE A DIFFERENT ROUTE TO SCHOOL,
SO SEE YOU IN CLASS!
WAIT,
TSUBAKI!
HUH?
YOU REALLY WANT ME
TO STOP BEING ANGRY?
HUH?
OF...
OF COURSE.
WELL THEN,
TAKE ME SOMEWHERE RIGHT NOW...
WHA...
WHAAAAT?!
RIGHT NOW...
YOU MEAN, SKIP SCHOOL?
YES...
DON'T WANT TO?
UFO

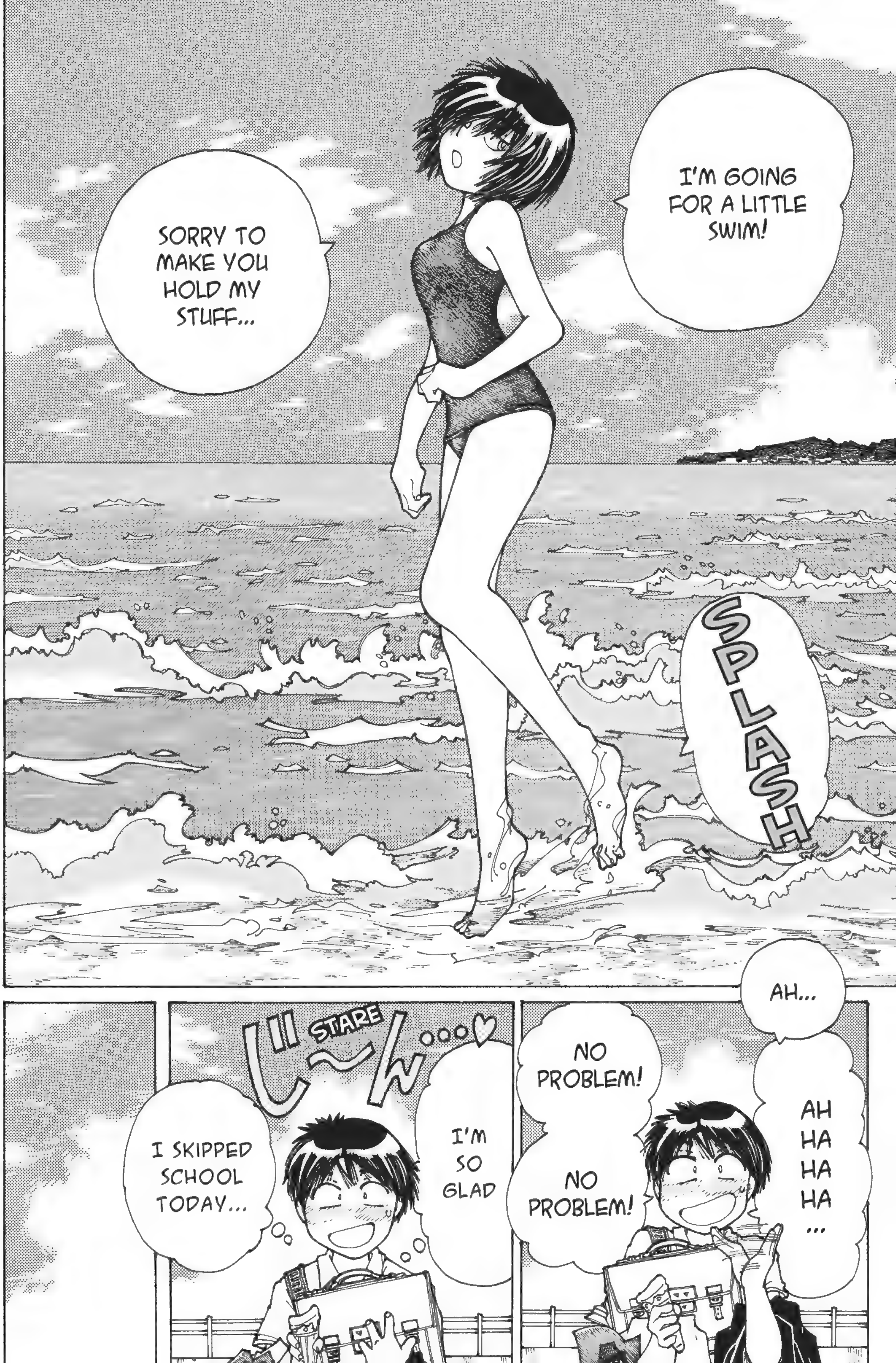

OF...
OF...
OF COURSE I WANT TO!
IF IT MEANS YOU WON'T BE MAD ANYMORE,
THEN WHAT'S
ONE MEASLY DAY OF SCHOOL ?!
IS THERE SOMEWHERE
YOU WANT ME TO TAKE YOU?
HMM...
HM?
...
DAZZLE
カッ

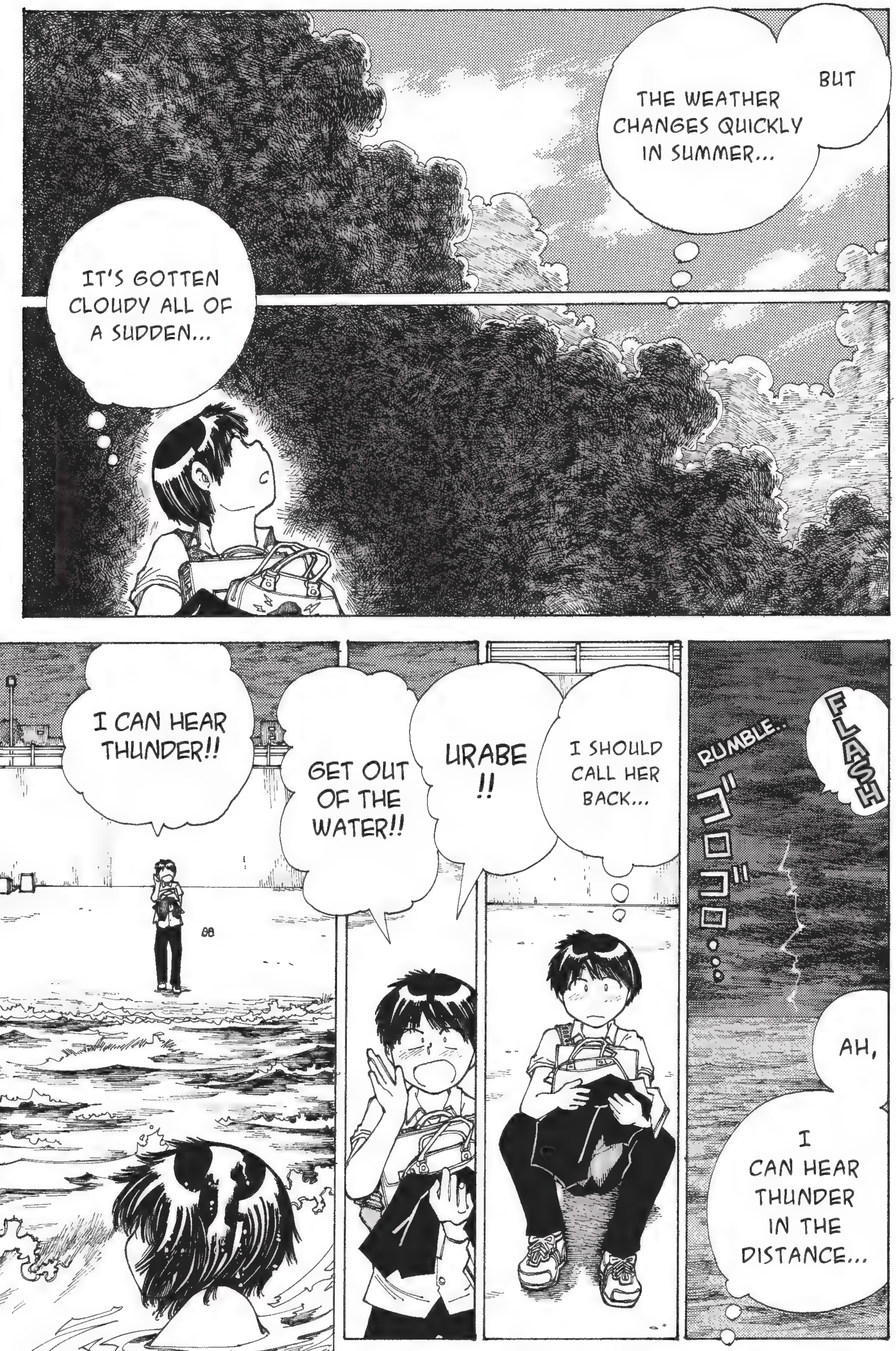

I GUESS ...
THE BEACH ?
プァァァン
HOOOOOONK
1701
UFO

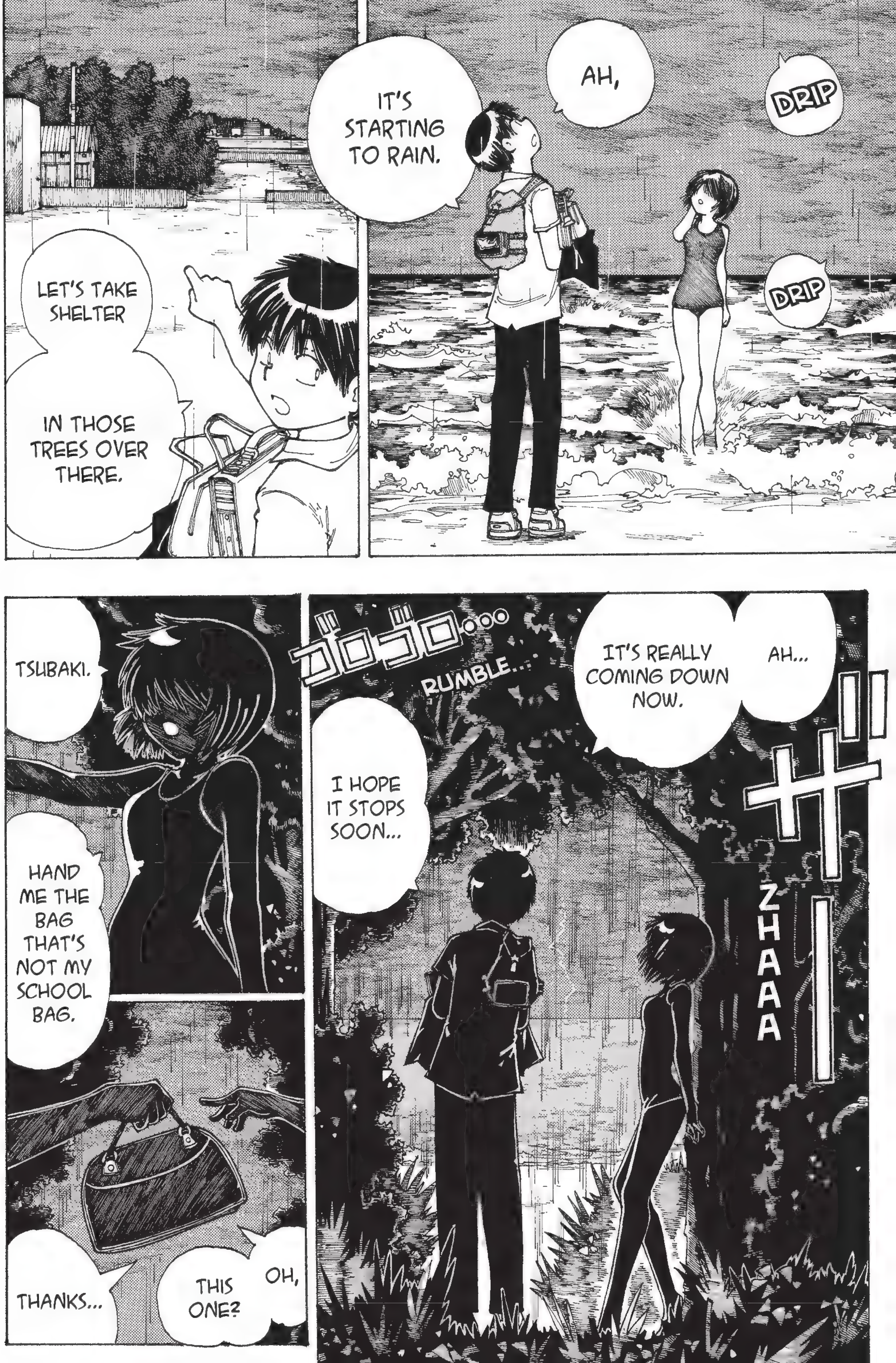

URABE!
ZHFF
HERE!
I FOUND A STAND OVER THERE,
SO I GOT US SOME ICE CREAM.
THANKS.
HOW MUCH WAS IT?
OH,
DON'T WORRY
ABOUT IT!
THIS IS PART OF MY APOLOGY
FOR YESTERDAY!
LICK
IT'S PRETTY EMPTY.
JUST SOME GUYS SURFING OVER THERE...
WELL, IT IS
A WEEKDAY MORNING...
AND IT'S STILL ONLY JUNE...
BUT IT SURE IS HOT!
I BET IT'LL BE OVER 85 DEGREES AGAIN TODAY.
UFO

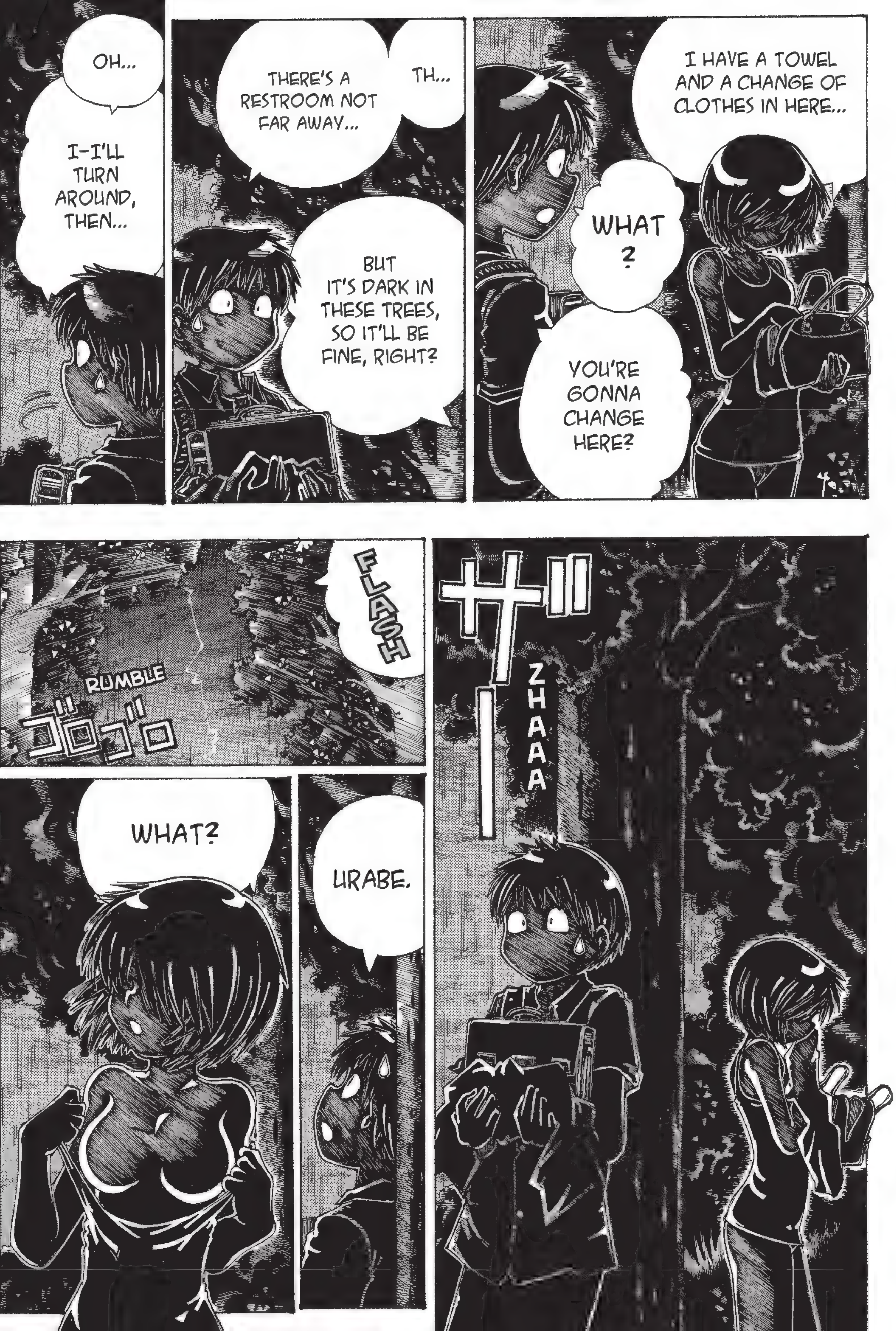

SORRY,
TSUBAKI,
FOR MAKING YOU SKIP SCHOOL...
HUH?
HA HA...
IT'S FINE, IT'S FINE.
IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT.
IT'S SUMMER'S FAULT FOR PUTTING ME IN THE MOOD
TO SKIP SCHOOL!
I SEE...
IT'S SUMMER'S FAULT...
KRUNCH
KRUNCH
TSUBAKI,
WILL YOU HOLD MY BAG?
SHOVE
AND MY UNIFORM?
HUH?
UFO

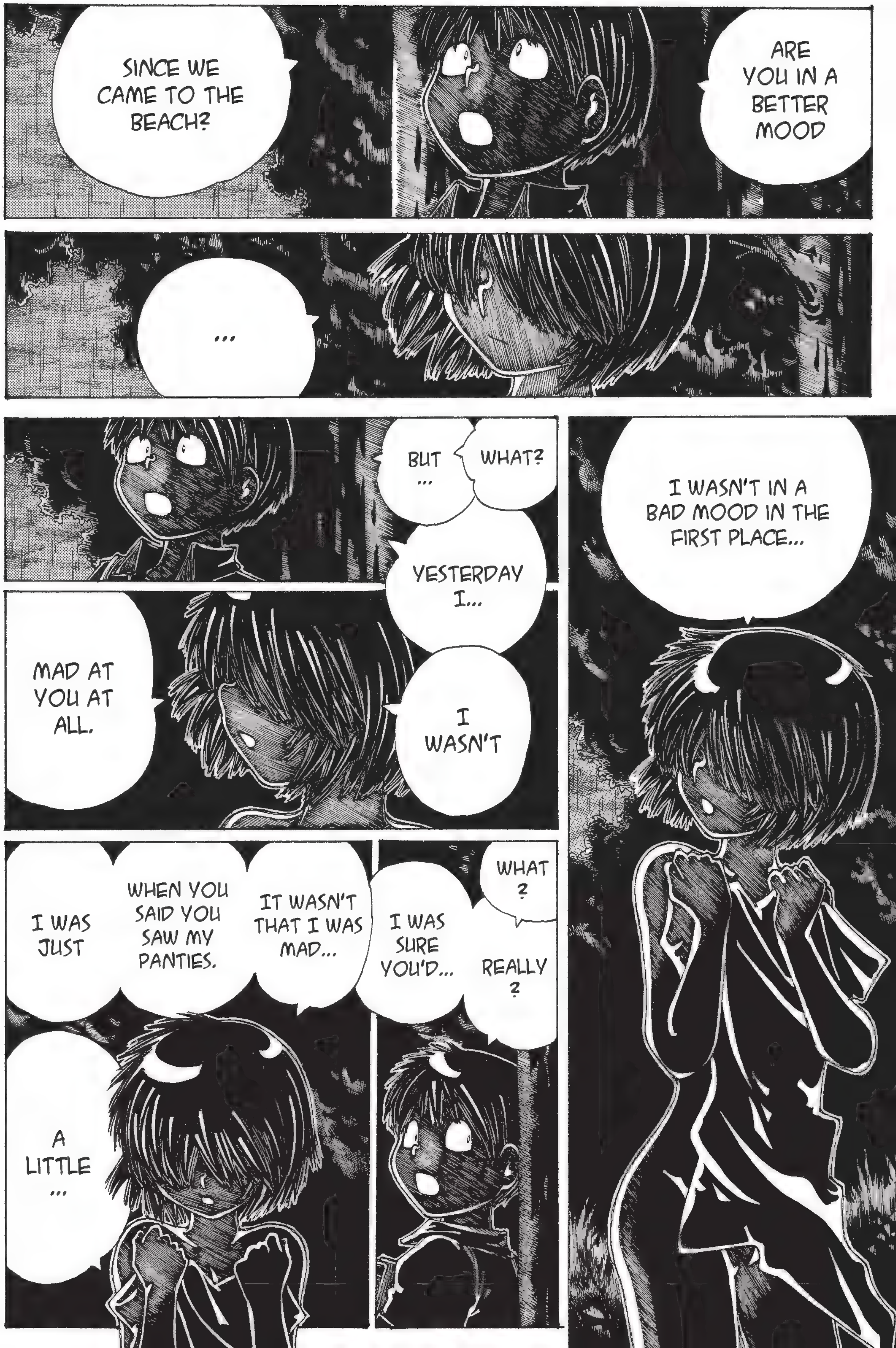

I'M GOING SWIMMING!
I TOLD YOU, RIGHT?
THE GIRLS ARE USING THE POOL DURING 1ST PERIOD...
SO I WORE MY SWIMSUIT UNDER MY UNIFORM.
SPLISH

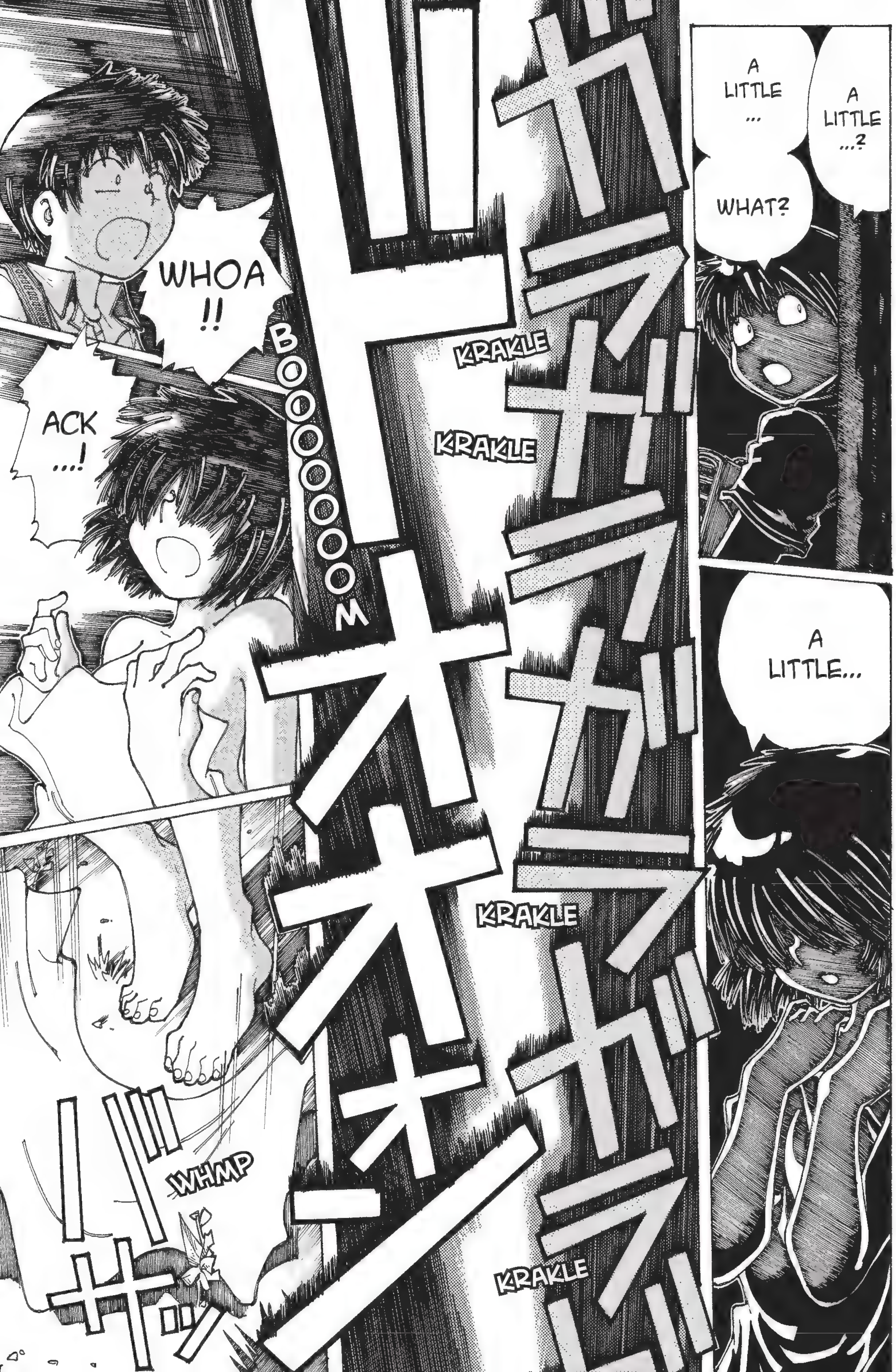

I'M GOING FOR A LITTLE SWIM!
SORRY TO MAKE YOU HOLD MY STUFF...
SPLASH
AH...
AH HA HA HA HA ...
NO PROBLEM!
NO PROBLEM!
じ〜ん
STARE
I'M SO GLAD
I SKIPPED SCHOOL TODAY...

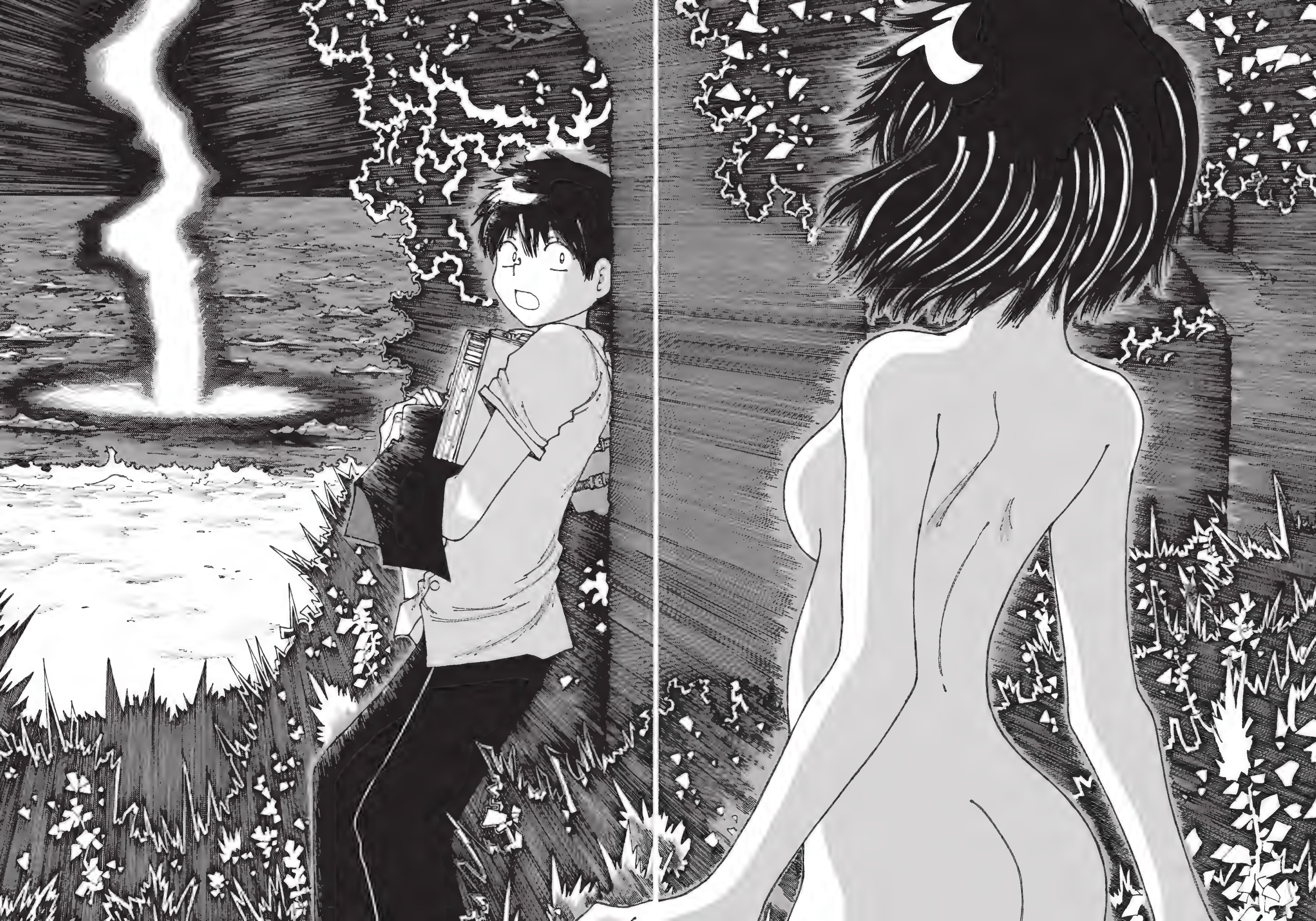

IT'S GOTTEN CLOUDY ALL OF A SUDDEN...
BUT THE WEATHER CHANGES QUICKLY IN SUMMER...
FLASH
RUMBLE..
ゴロゴロ・・・
AH, I CAN HEAR THUNDER IN THE DISTANCE...
I SHOULD CALL HER BACK...
URABE!!
GET OUT OF THE WATER!!
I CAN HEAR THUNDER!!

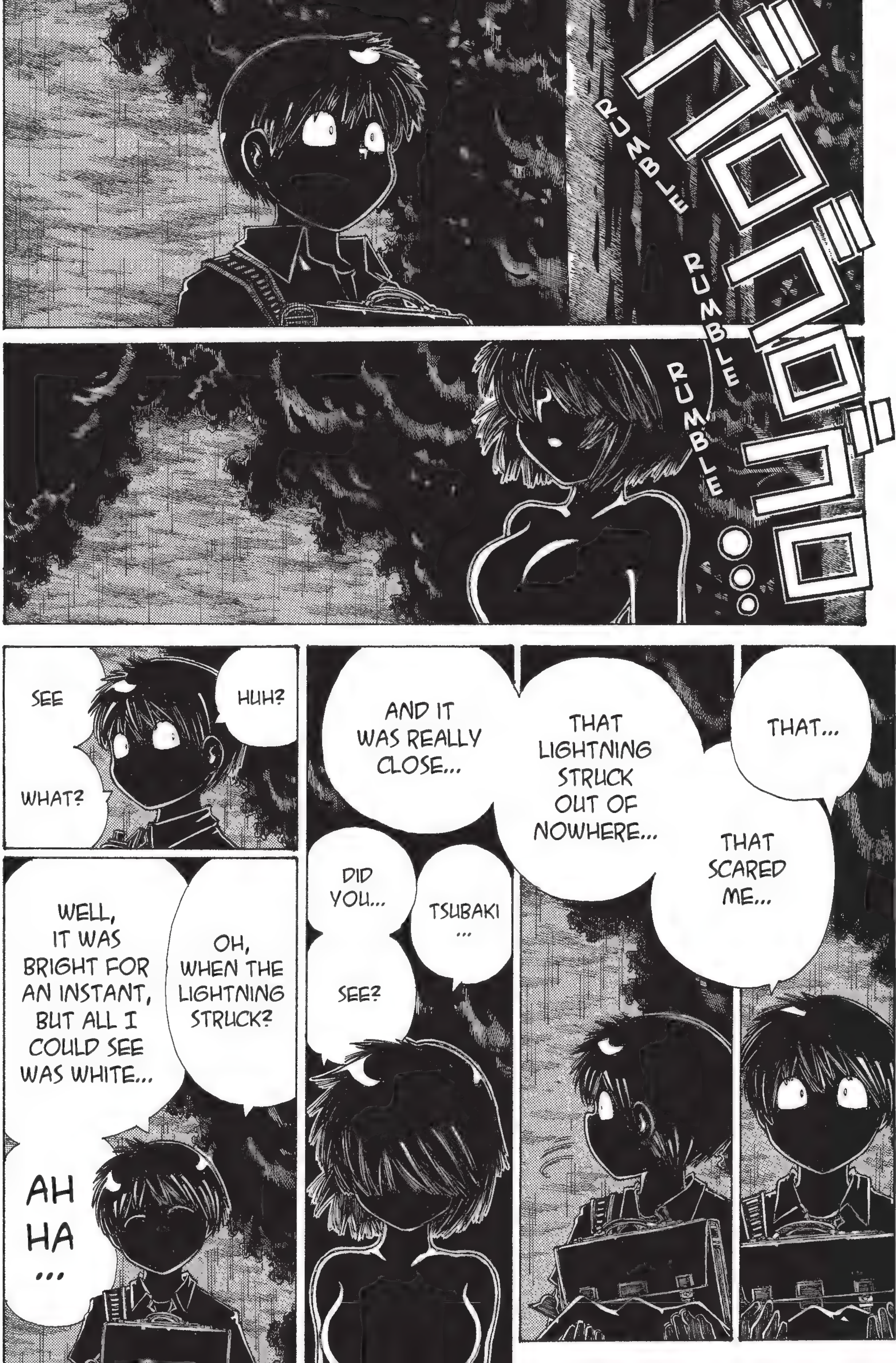

DRIP
DRIP
AH,
IT'S STARTING TO RAIN.
LET'S TAKE SHELTER
IN THOSE TREES OVER THERE.
ザーー
ZHAAA
AH...
IT'S REALLY COMING DOWN NOW.
ゴロゴロ...
RUMBLE...
I HOPE IT STOPS SOON...
TSUBAKI.
HAND ME THE BAG THAT'S NOT MY SCHOOL BAG.
OH,
THIS ONE?
THANKS...

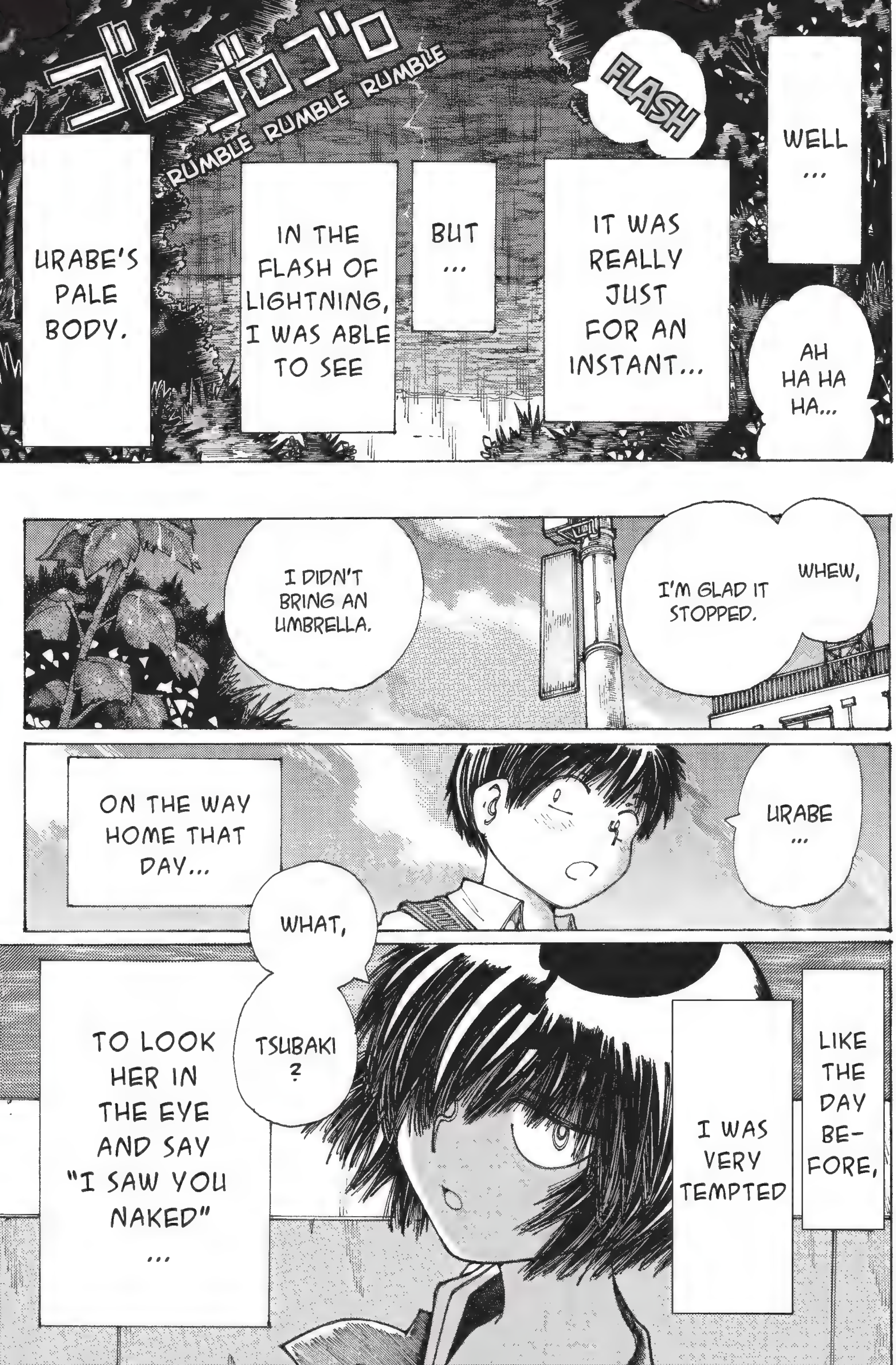

I HAVE A TOWEL AND A CHANGE OF CLOTHES IN HERE...
WHAT?
YOU'RE GONNA CHANGE HERE?
TH...
THERE'S A RESTROOM NOT FAR AWAY...
BUT IT'S DARK IN THESE TREES, SO IT'LL BE FINE, RIGHT?
OH...
I-I'LL TURN AROUND, THEN...
ザー
ZHAAAA
FLASH
RUMBLE
ゴロゴロ
URABE.
WHAT?

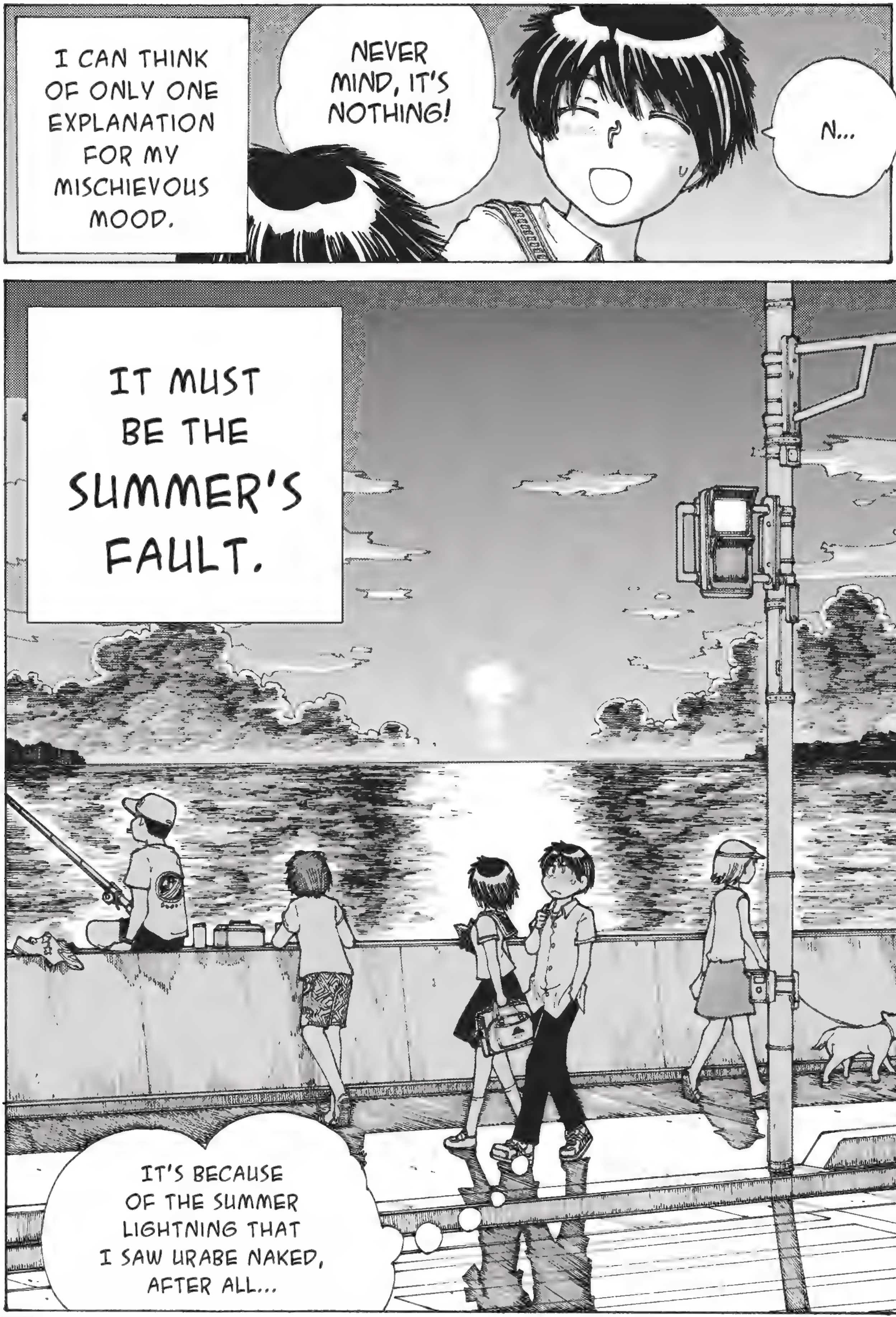

ARE YOU IN A BETTER MOOD
SINCE WE CAME TO THE BEACH?
...
I WASN'T IN A BAD MOOD IN THE FIRST PLACE...
WHAT?
BUT ...
YESTERDAY I...
I WASN'T
MAD AT YOU AT ALL.
WHAT ?
REALLY ?
I WAS SURE YOU'D...
IT WASN'T THAT I WAS MAD...
WHEN YOU SAID YOU SAW MY PANTIES.
I WAS JUST
A LITTLE ...


A LITTLE ...?
A LITTLE ...
WHAT?
A LITTLE...
ガラガラガラガラ
KRAKLE
KRAKLE
KRAKLE
KRAKLE
ドオオン
BOOOOOOOM
WHOA !!
ACK ...!
WHMP
ドサッ



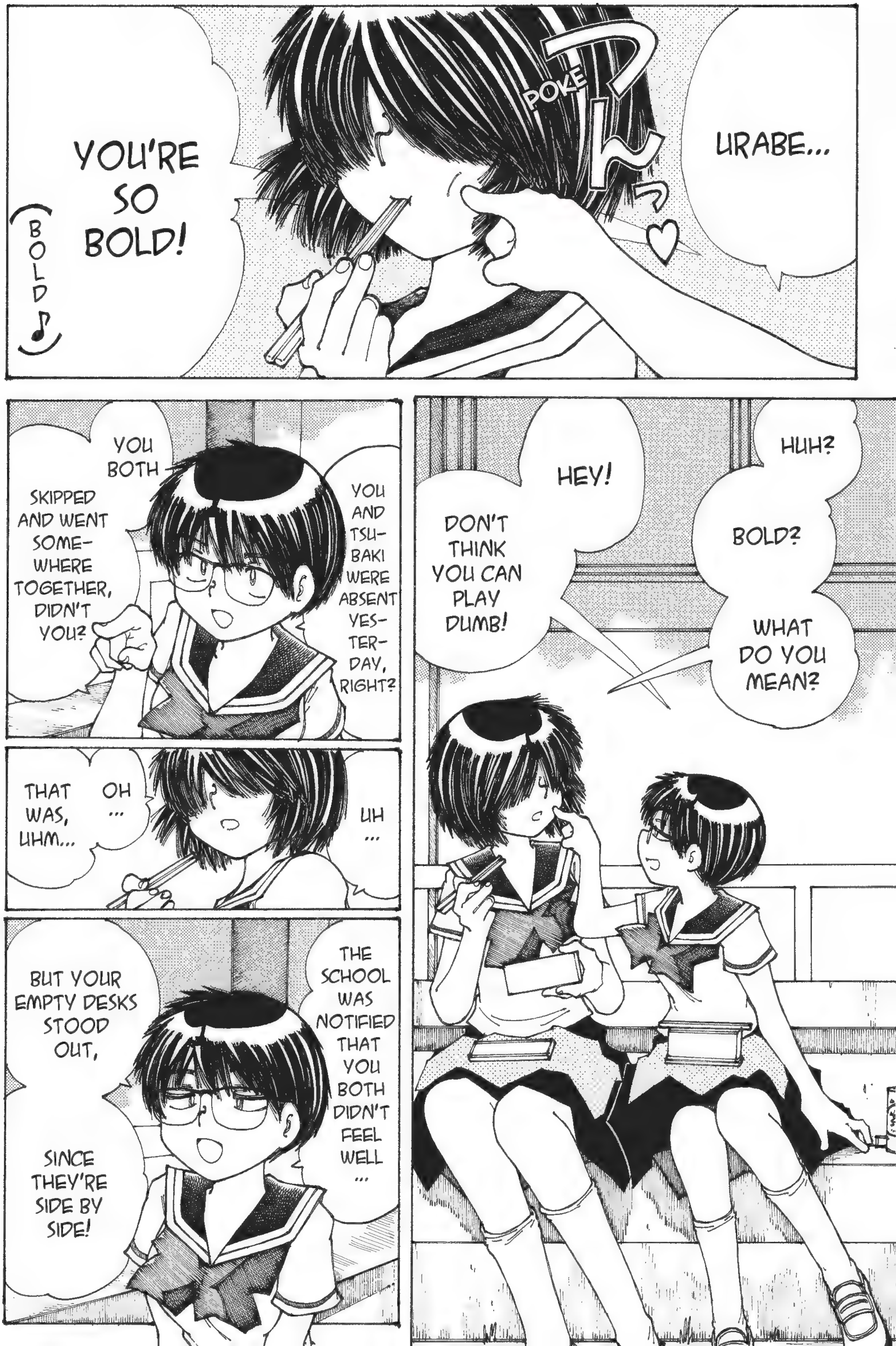

ゴロゴロゴロ…
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
THAT...
THAT SCARED ME...
THAT LIGHTNING STRUCK OUT OF NOWHERE...
AND IT WAS REALLY CLOSE...
TSUBAKI...
DID YOU...
SEE?
HUH?
SEE WHAT?
OH, WHEN THE LIGHTNING STRUCK?
WELL, IT WAS BRIGHT FOR AN INSTANT, BUT ALL I COULD SEE WAS WHITE...
AH HA...

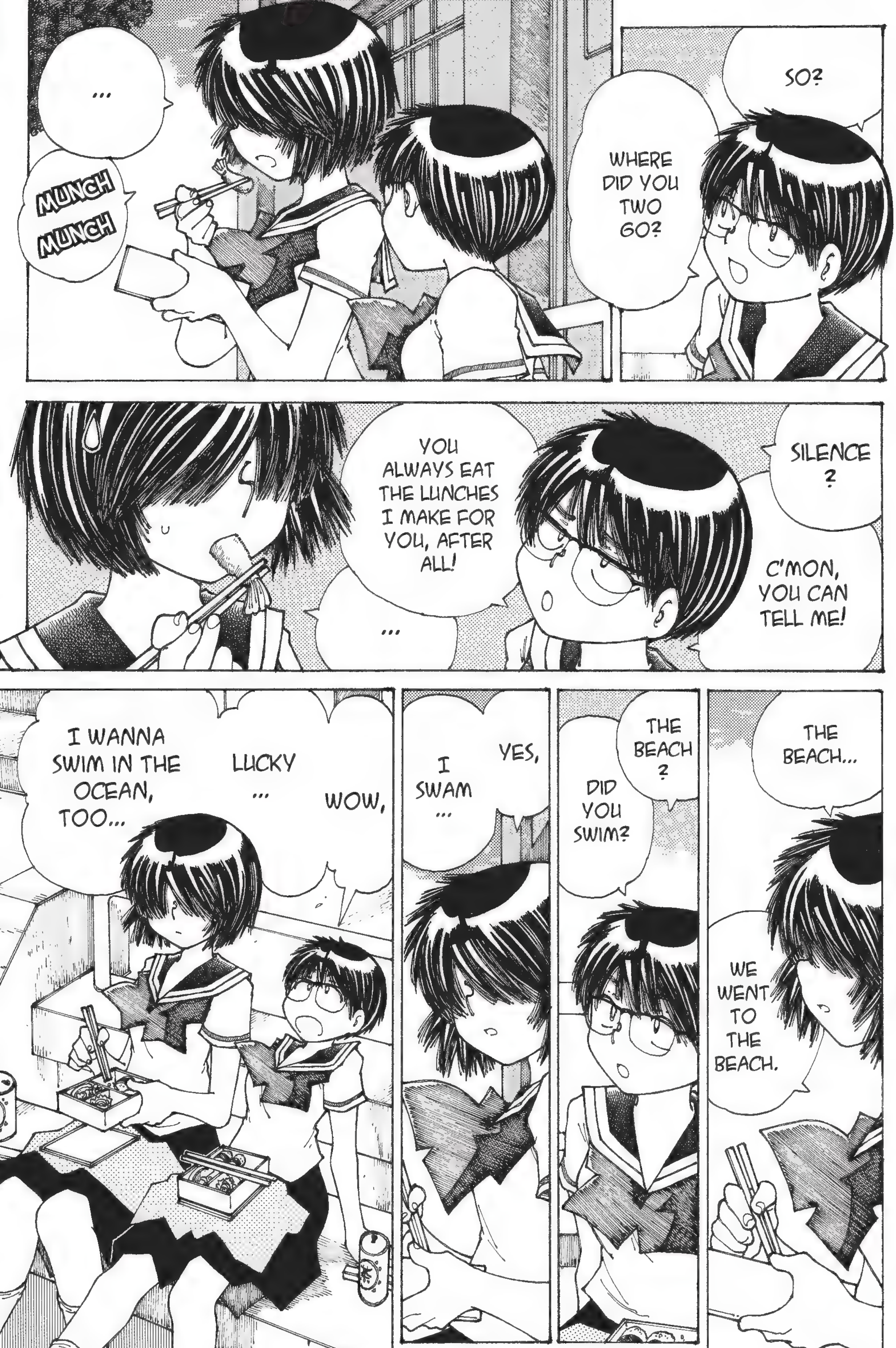

ゴロゴロゴロ
RUMBLE RUMBLE RUMBLE
WELL...
AH HA HA HA...
FLASH
IT WAS REALLY JUST FOR AN INSTANT...
BUT...
IN THE FLASH OF LIGHTNING, I WAS ABLE TO SEE
URABE'S PALE BODY.
WHEW, I'M GLAD IT STOPPED.
I DIDN'T BRING AN UMBRELLA.
URABE...
ON THE WAY HOME THAT DAY...
WHAT, TSUBAKI?
LIKE THE DAY BEFORE,
I WAS VERY TEMPTED
TO LOOK HER IN THE EYE AND SAY "I SAW YOU NAKED"...

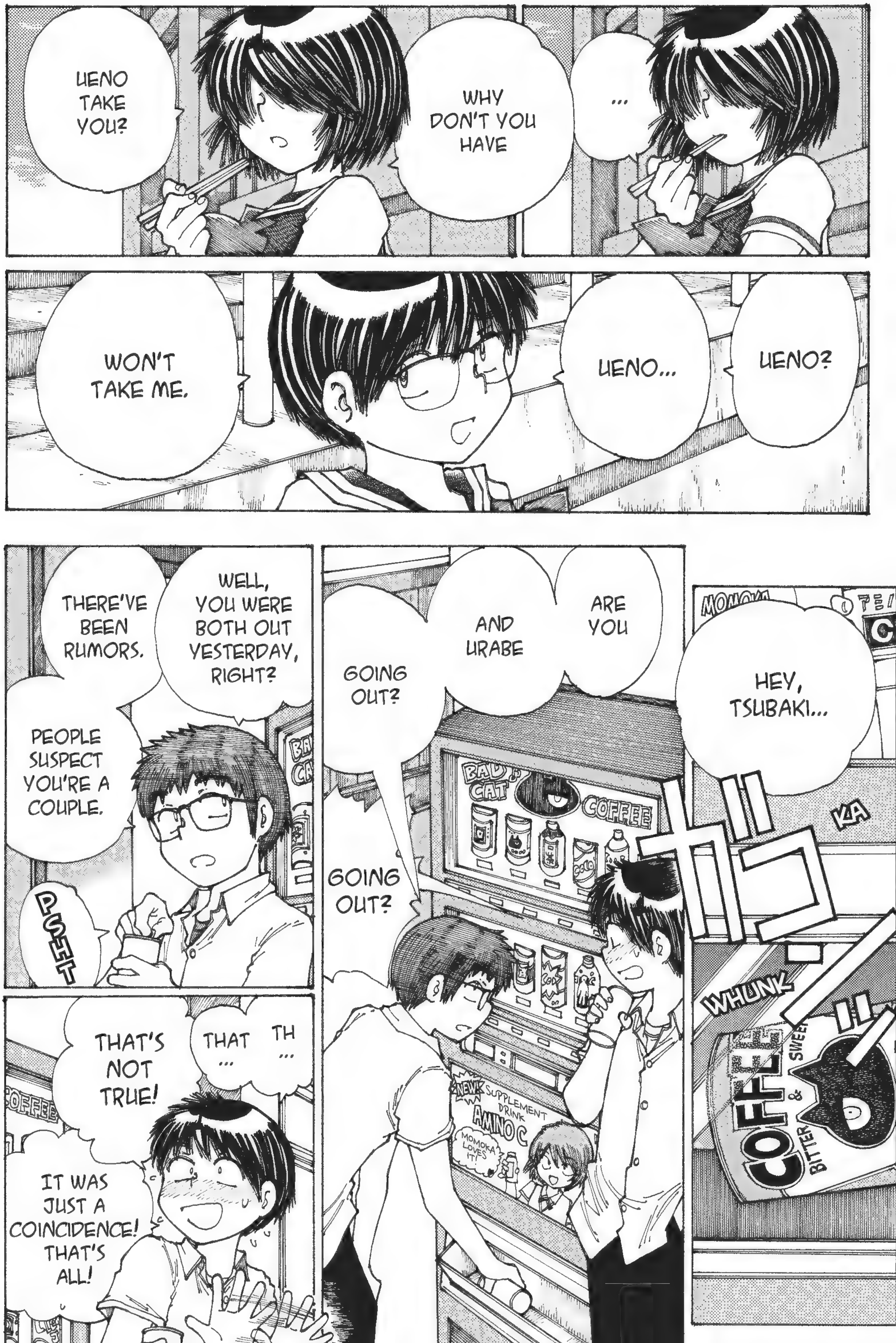

I CAN THINK OF ONLY ONE EXPLANATION FOR MY MISCHIEVOUS MOOD.
NEVER MIND, IT'S NOTHING!
N...
IT MUST BE THE SUMMER'S FAULT.
IT'S BECAUSE OF THE SUMMER LIGHTNING THAT I SAW URABE NAKED, AFTER ALL...

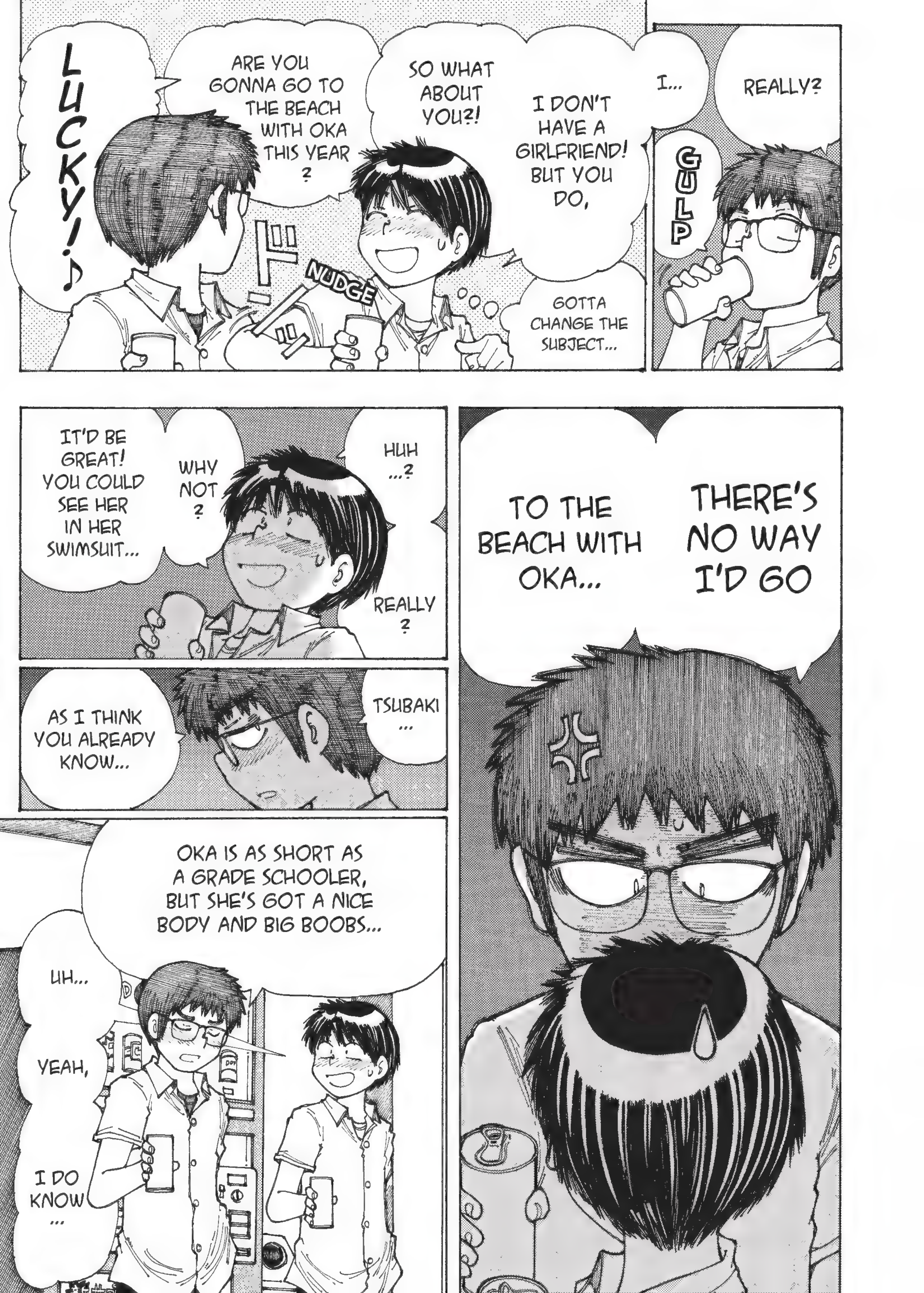
END OF CHAPTER 25

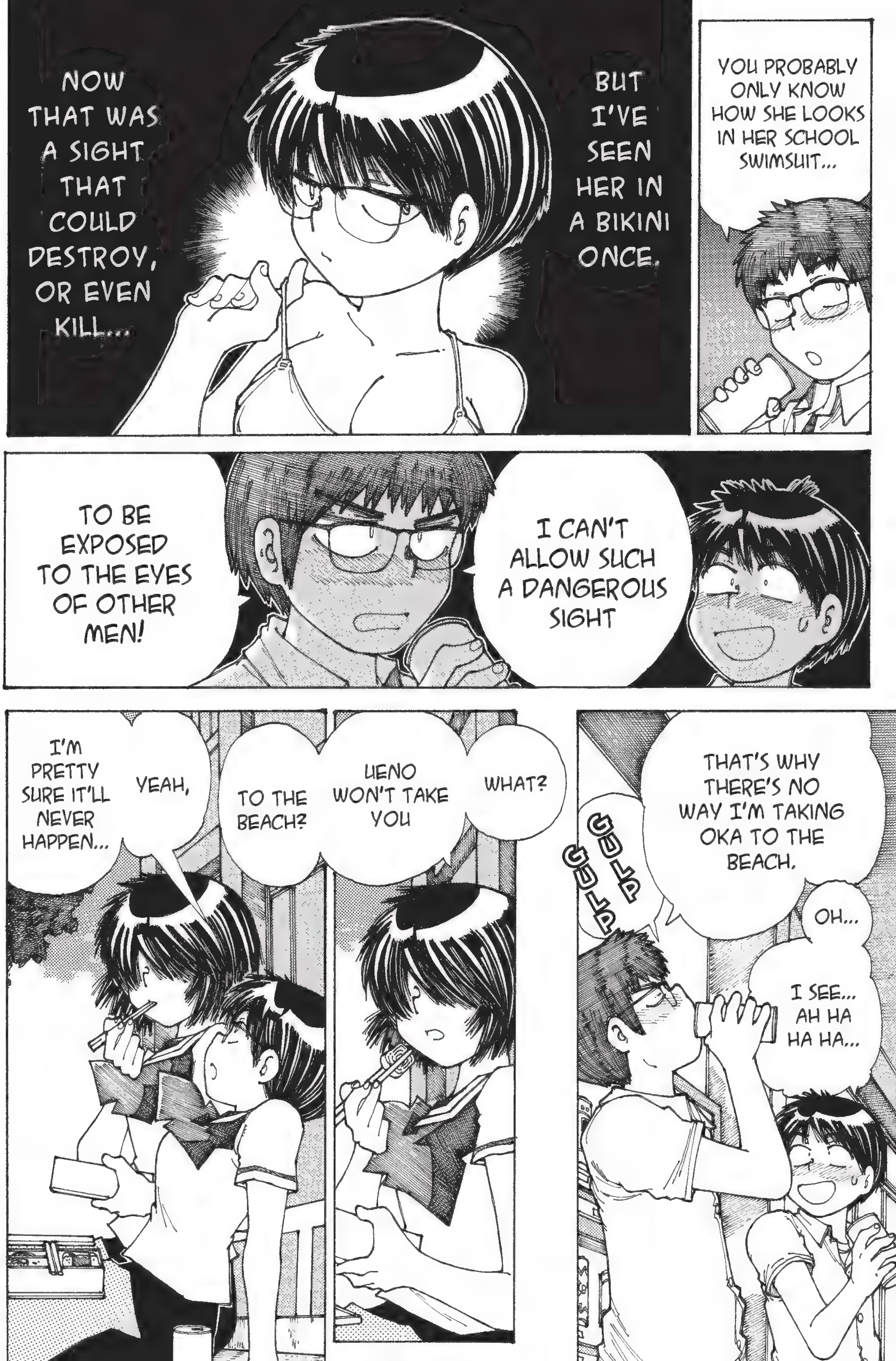
CHAPTER 26: MYSTERIOUS SOUVENIR

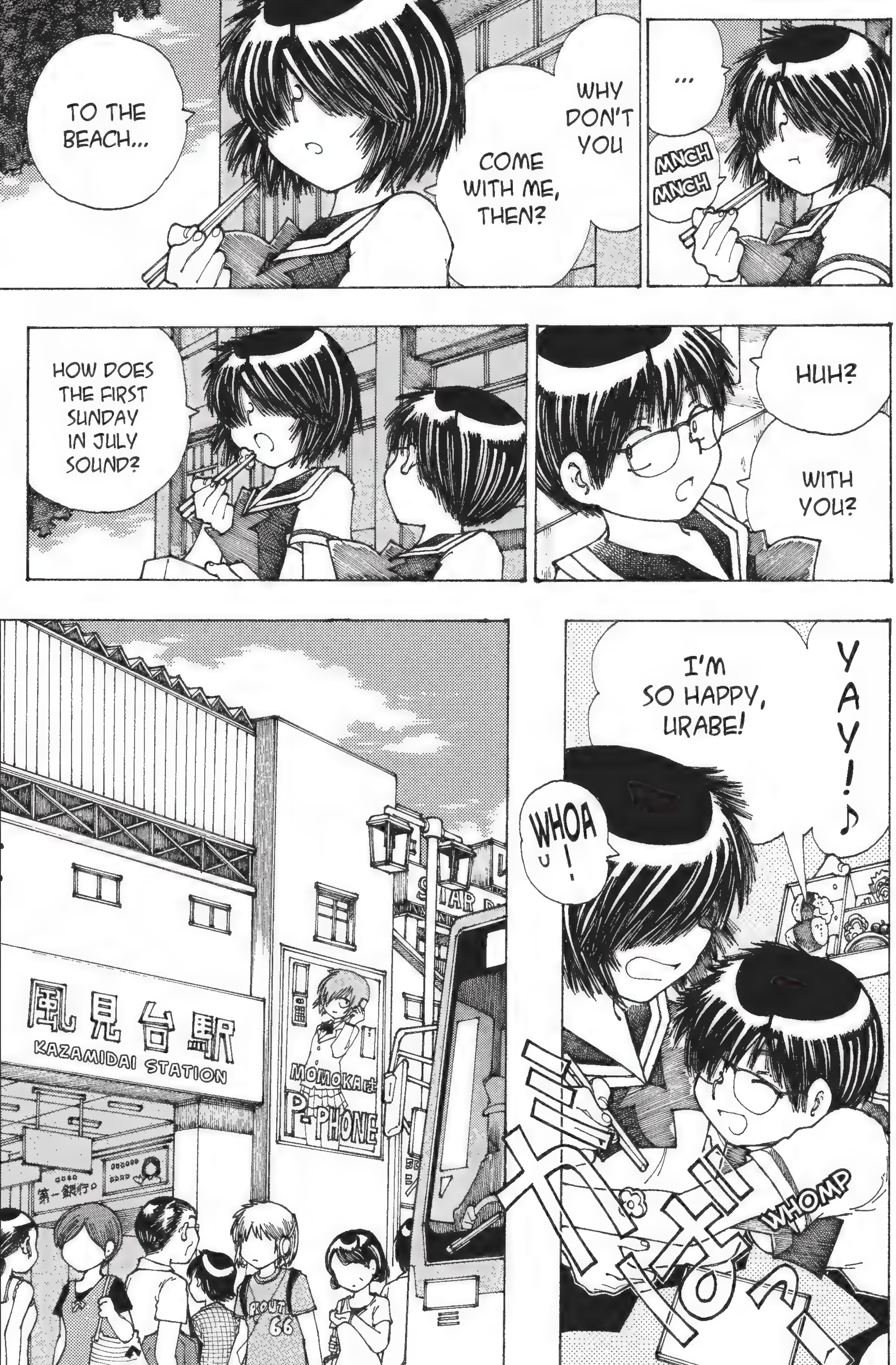

URABE...
POKE
YOU'RE SO BOLD!
BOLD BOLD ♪
HUH?
BOLD?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
HEY!
DON'T THINK YOU CAN PLAY DUMB!
YOU AND TSUBAKI WERE ABSENT YESTERDAY, RIGHT?
YOU BOTH SKIPPED AND WENT SOMEWHERE TOGETHER, DIDN'T YOU?
UH...
OH...
THAT WAS, UHM...
THE SCHOOL WAS NOTIFIED THAT YOU BOTH DIDN'T FEEL WELL...
BUT YOUR EMPTY DESKS STOOD OUT,
SINCE THEY'RE SIDE BY SIDE!

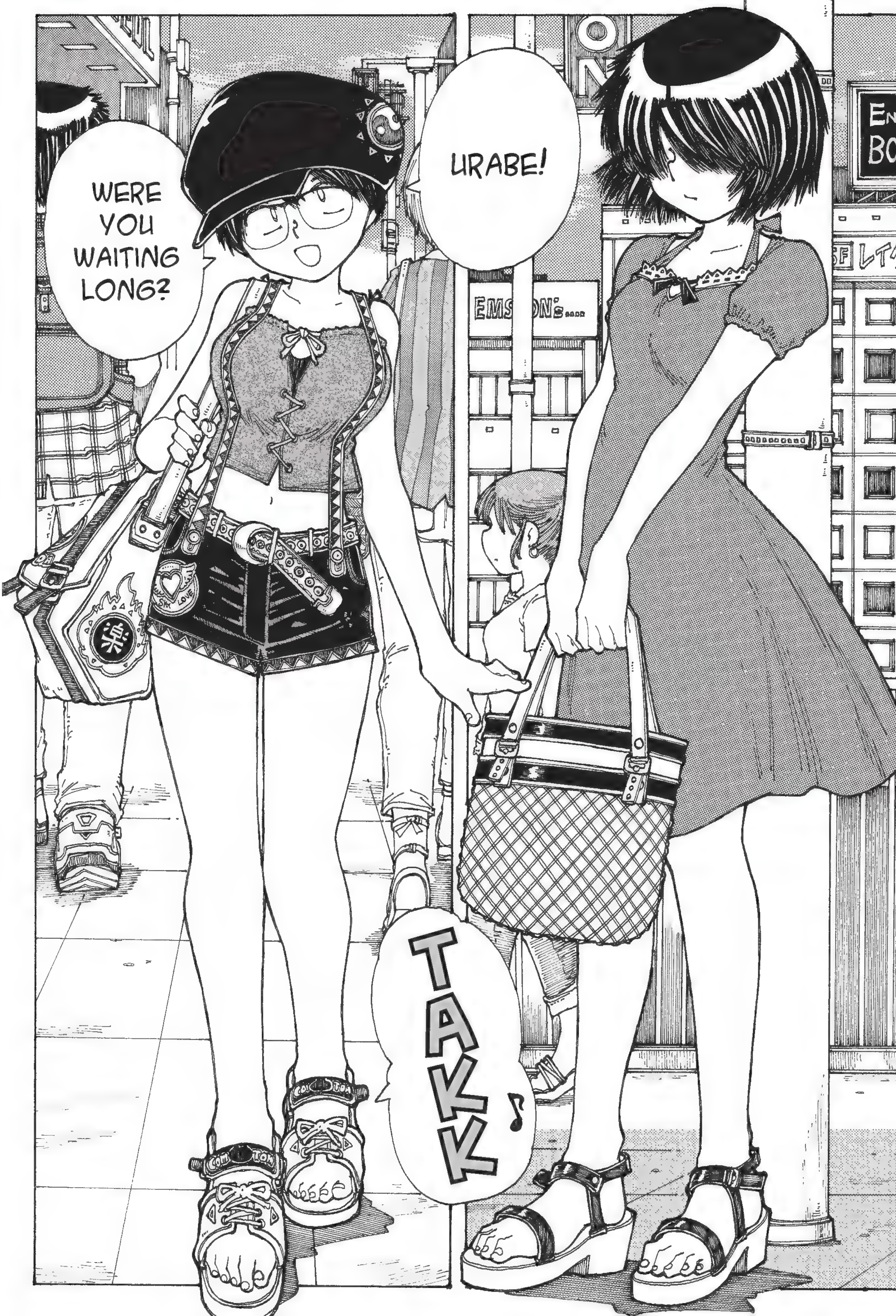

SO?
WHERE DID YOU TWO GO?
...
MUNCH MUNCH
SILENCE?
C'MON, YOU CAN TELL ME!
YOU ALWAYS EAT THE LUNCHES I MAKE FOR YOU, AFTER ALL!
...
THE BEACH...
WE WENT TO THE BEACH.
THE BEACH?
DID YOU SWIM?
YES, I SWAM...
WOW, LUCKY...
I WANNA SWIM IN THE OCEAN, TOO...

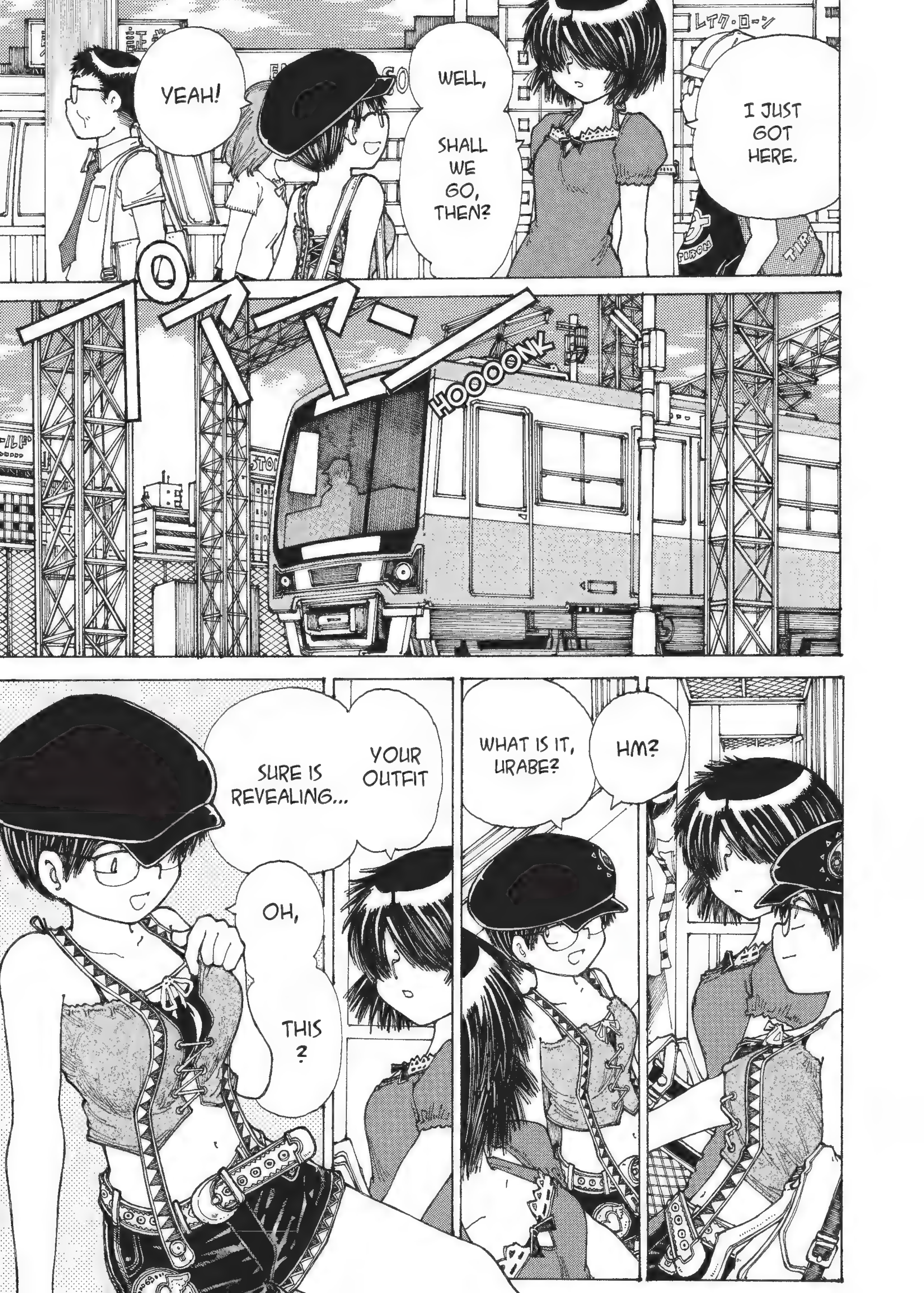

...
WHY DON'T YOU HAVE
UENO TAKE YOU?
UENO?
UENO...
WON'T TAKE ME.
HEY, TSUBAKI...
KA
WHUNK
COFFEE BITTER & SWEET
ARE YOU
AND URABE
GOING OUT?
GOING OUT?
BAD CAT COFFEE
NEW! SUPPLEMENT DRINK AMINO C
MOMOKA LOVES IT!
WELL, YOU WERE BOTH OUT YESTERDAY, RIGHT?
THERE'VE BEEN RUMORS.
PEOPLE SUSPECT YOU'RE A COUPLE.
PSHT
TH ...
THAT ...
THAT'S NOT TRUE!
IT WAS JUST A COINCIDENCE! THAT'S ALL!
COFFEE

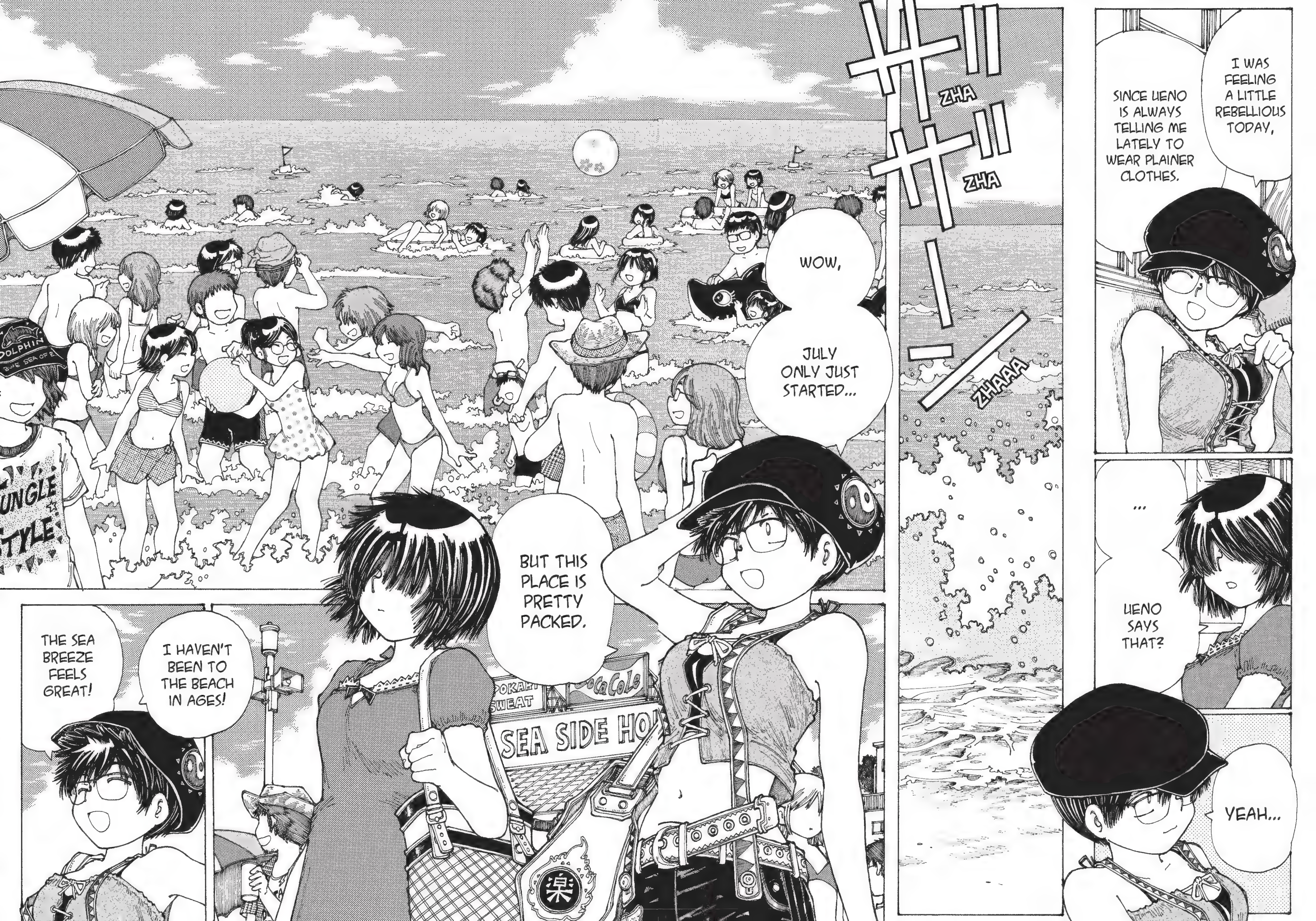

REALLY?
I...
GULP
I DON'T HAVE A GIRLFRIEND! BUT YOU DO,
GOTTA CHANGE THE SUBJECT...
SO WHAT ABOUT YOU?!
ARE YOU GONNA GO TO THE BEACH WITH OKA THIS YEAR?
NUDGE
ド
LUCKY!♪
HUH...?
WHY NOT?
IT'D BE GREAT! YOU COULD SEE HER IN HER SWIMSUIT...
REALLY?
TSUBAKI...
AS I THINK YOU ALREADY KNOW...
OKA IS AS SHORT AS A GRADE SCHOOLER, BUT SHE'S GOT A NICE BODY AND BIG BOOBS...
UH...
YEAH,
I DO KNOW...
THERE'S NO WAY I'D GO
TO THE BEACH WITH OKA...

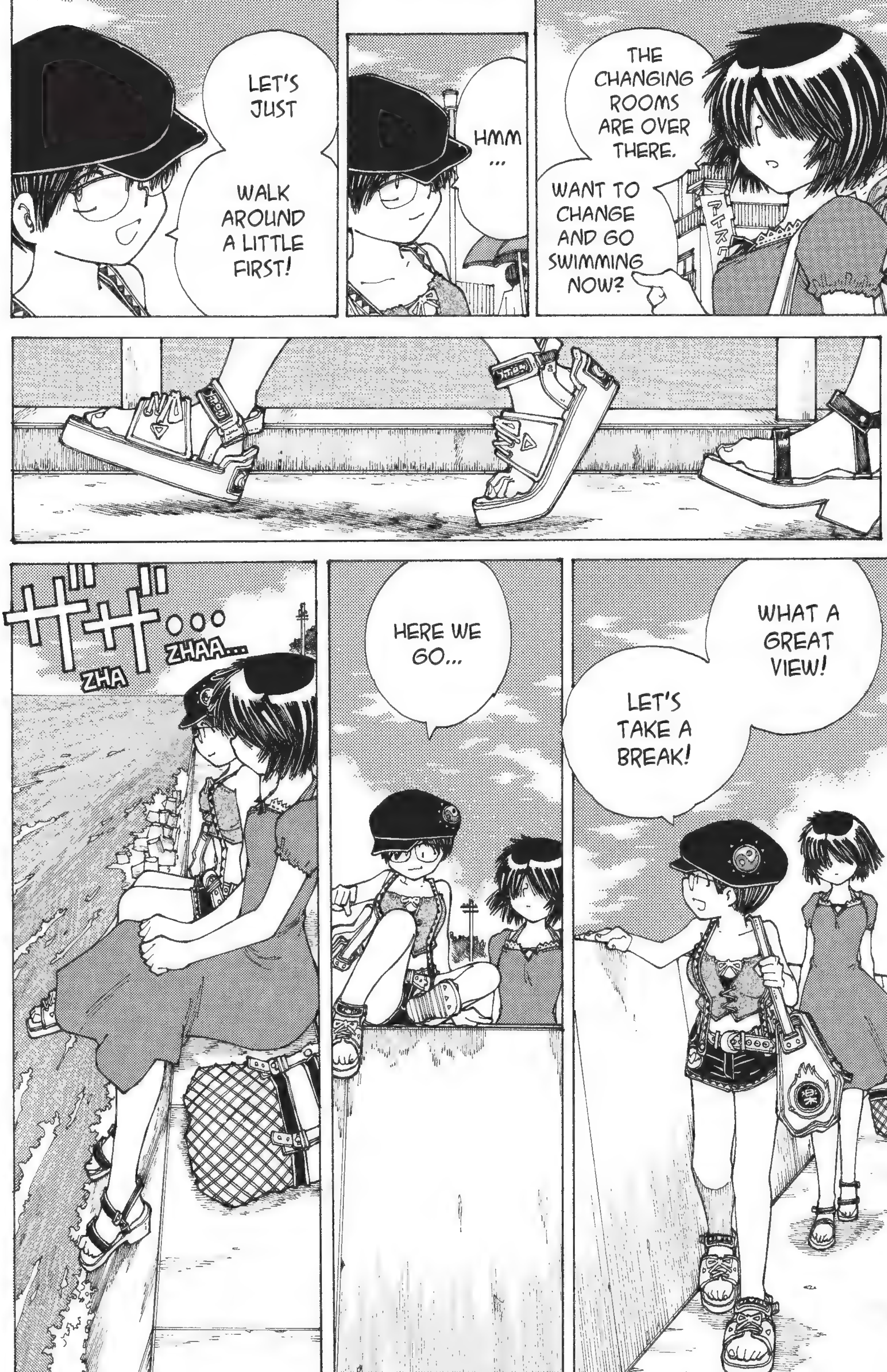

YOU PROBABLY ONLY KNOW HOW SHE LOOKS IN HER SCHOOL SWIMSUIT...
BUT I'VE SEEN HER IN A BIKINI ONCE.
NOW THAT WAS A SIGHT THAT COULD DESTROY, OR EVEN KILL...
I CAN'T ALLOW SUCH A DANGEROUS SIGHT
TO BE EXPOSED TO THE EYES OF OTHER MEN!
THAT'S WHY THERE'S NO WAY I'M TAKING OKA TO THE BEACH.
GULP GULP
OH...
I SEE... AH HA HA HA...
WHAT?
UENO WON'T TAKE YOU
TO THE BEACH?
YEAH,
I'M PRETTY SURE IT'LL NEVER HAPPEN...

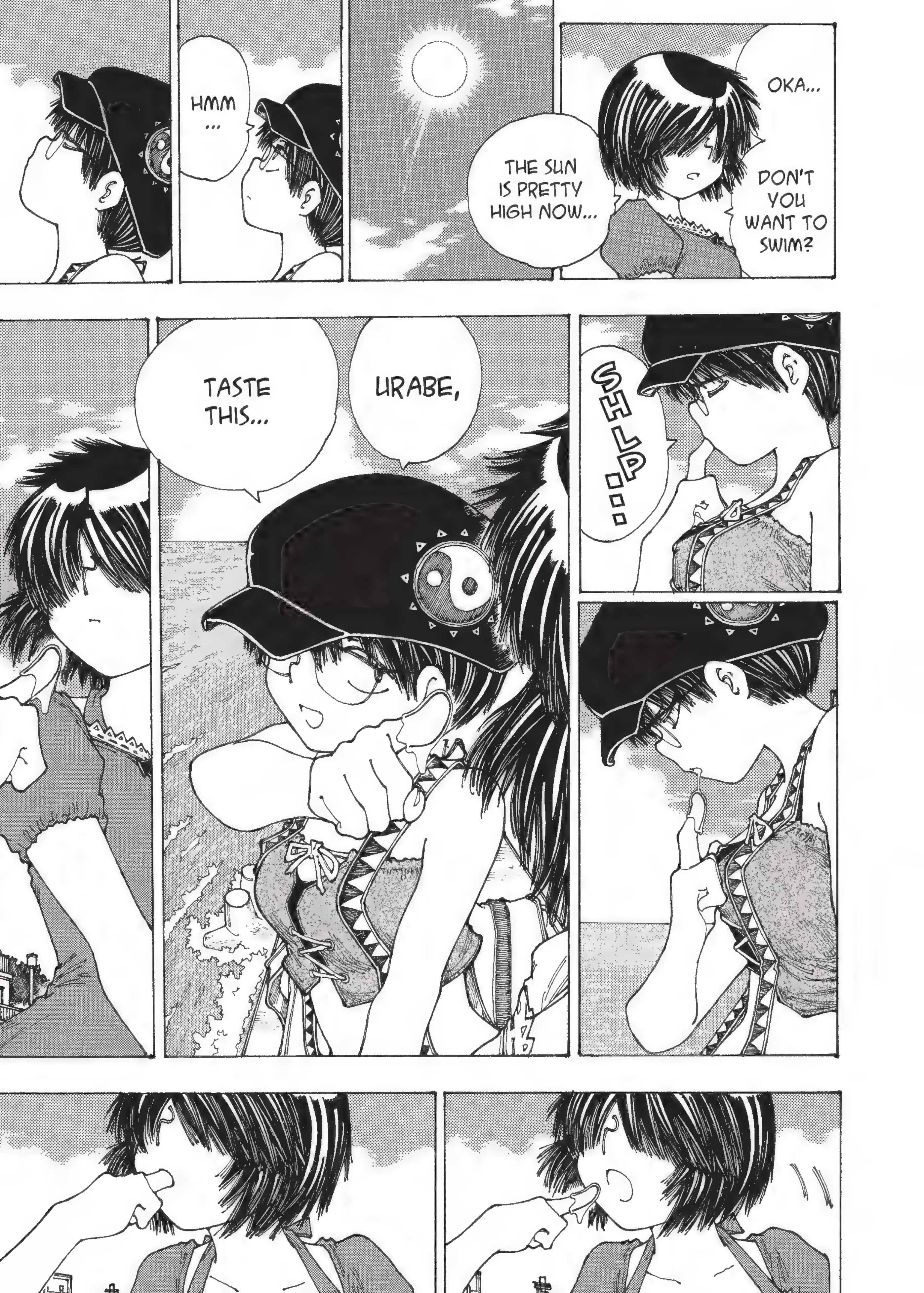

...
MNCH MNCH
WHY DON'T YOU COME WITH ME, THEN?
TO THE BEACH...
HUH? WITH YOU?
HOW DOES THE FIRST SUNDAY IN JULY SOUND?
YAY!♪
I'M SO HAPPY, URABE!
WHOA!
WHOMP
STAR
MOMOKAは P-PHONE
風見台駅
KAZAMIDAI STATION
第一銀行
ROUT 66

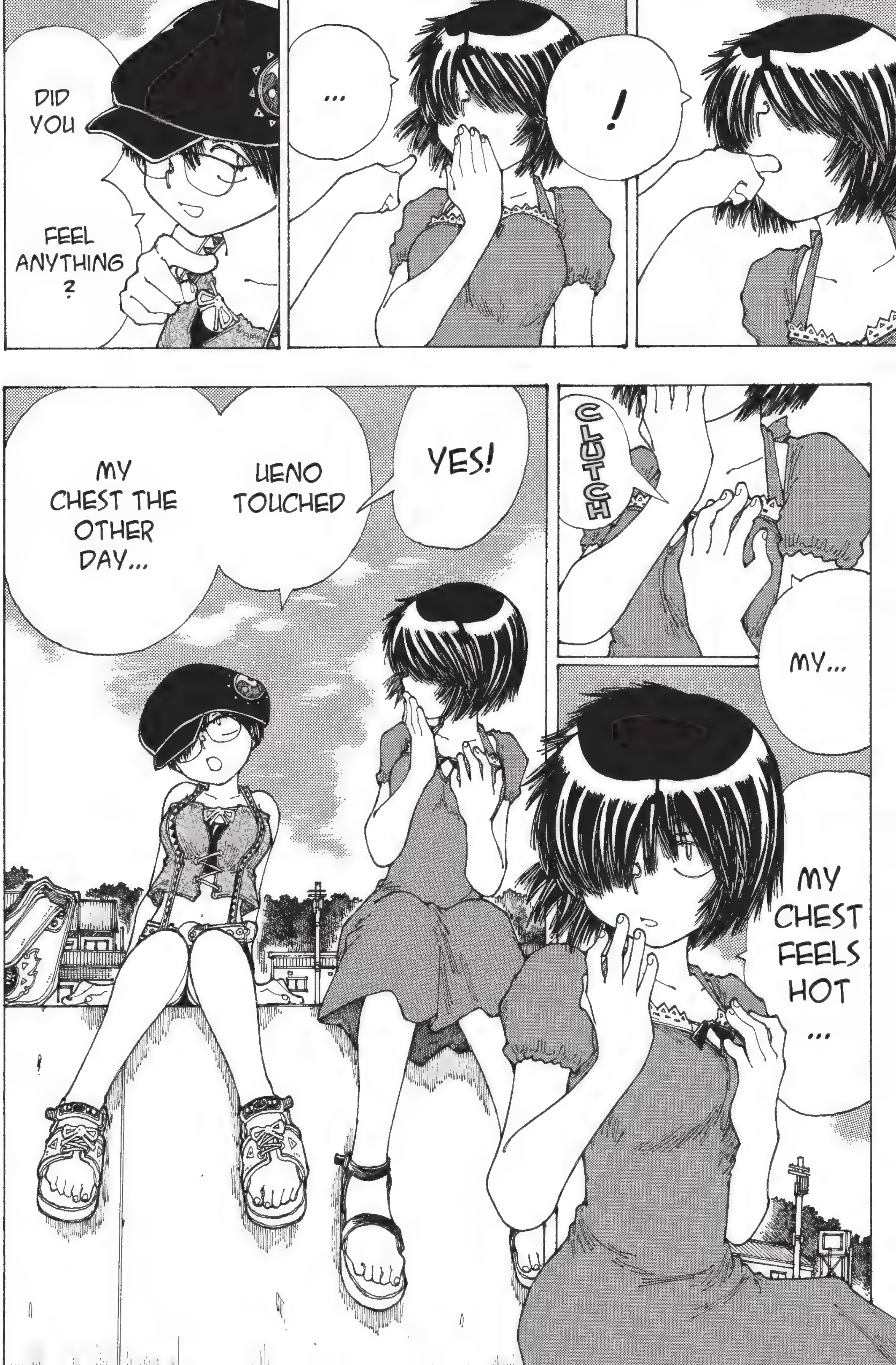

URABE!
WERE YOU WAITING LONG?
TAKK♪

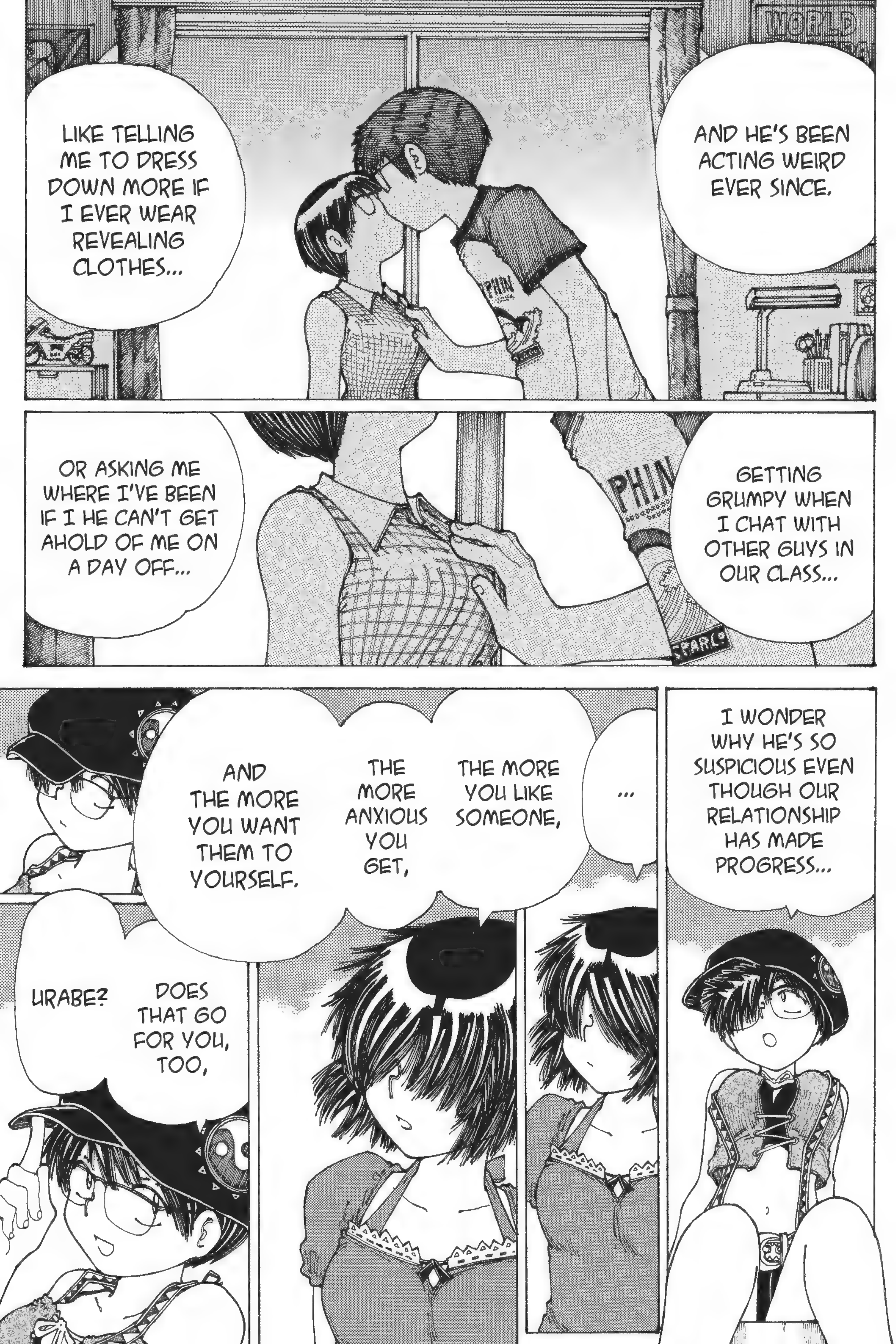

レイク・ローン
I JUST GOT HERE.
WELL, SHALL WE GO, THEN?
YEAH!
プァーー
HOOOONK
HM?
WHAT IS IT, URABE?
YOUR OUTFIT SURE IS REVEALING...
OH, THIS?

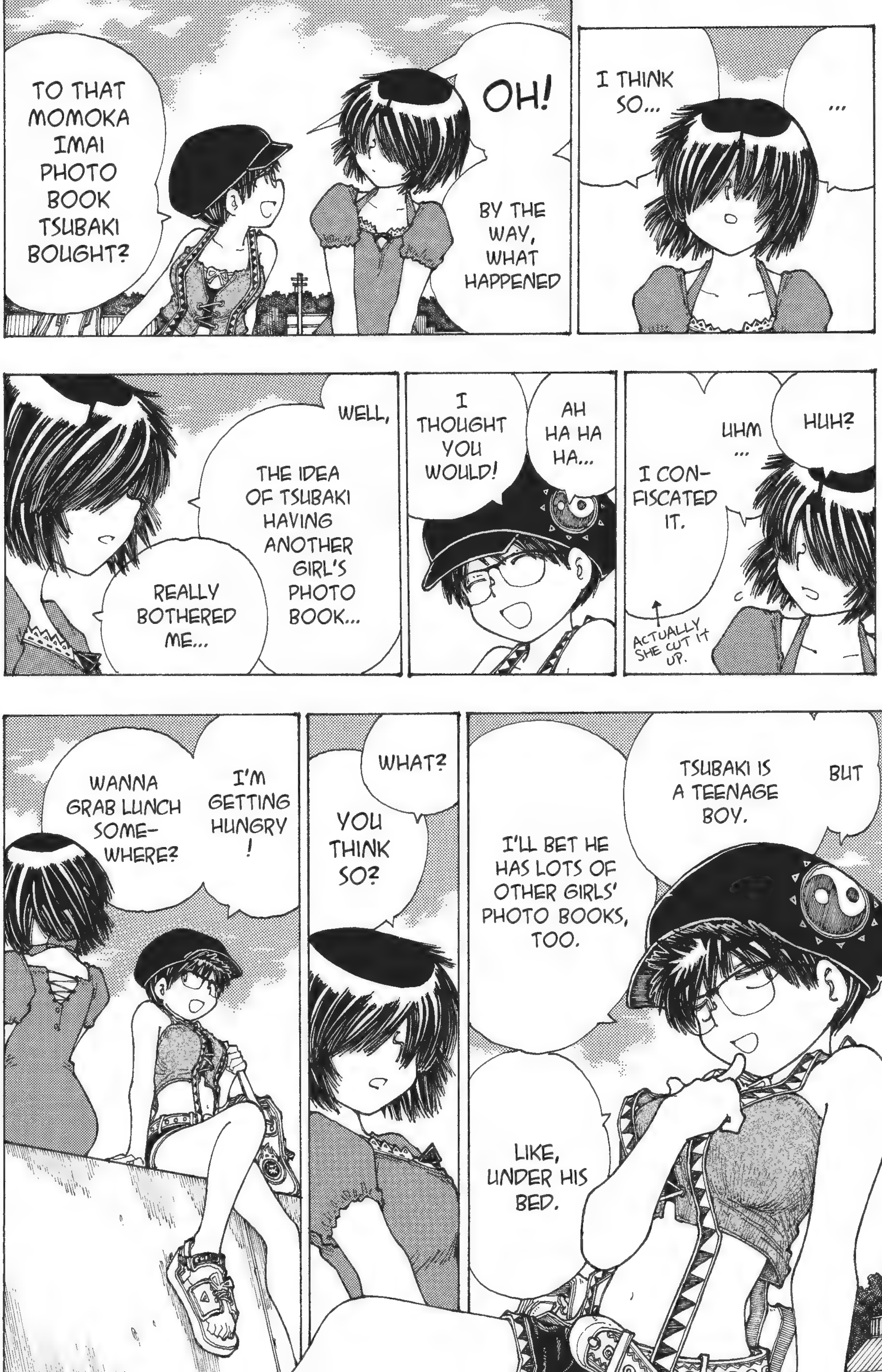

I WAS FEELING A LITTLE REBELLIOUS TODAY,
SINCE UENO IS ALWAYS TELLING ME LATELY TO WEAR PLAINER CLOTHES.
...
UENO SAYS THAT?
YEAH...
ZHA
ZHA
ZHAAA
WOW,
JULY ONLY JUST STARTED...
BUT THIS PLACE IS PRETTY PACKED.
I HAVEN'T BEEN TO THE BEACH IN AGES!
THE SEA BREEZE FEELS GREAT!
DOLPHIN
JUNGLE STYLE
POKARI SWEAT
CocaCola
SEA SIDE HO
楽

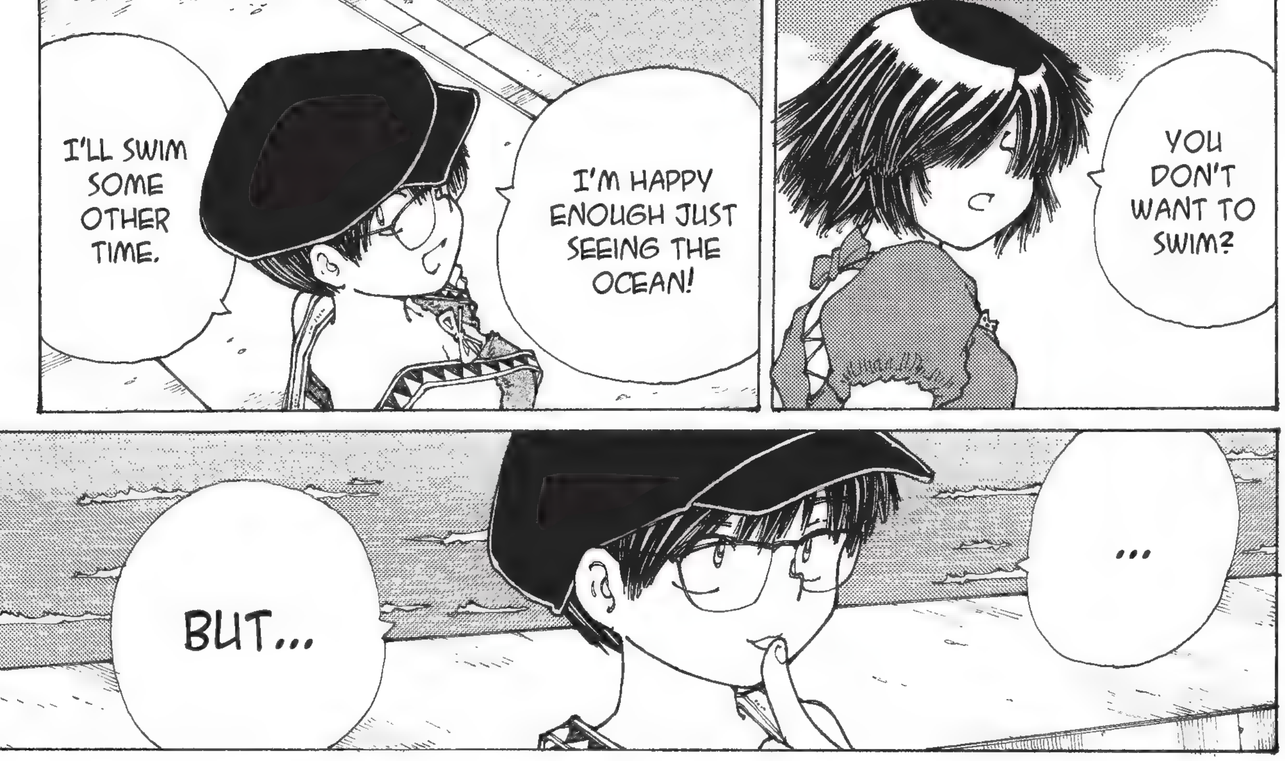

THE CHANGING ROOMS ARE OVER THERE.
WANT TO CHANGE AND GO SWIMMING NOW?
アイス
HMM ...
LET'S JUST WALK AROUND A LITTLE FIRST!
WHAT A GREAT VIEW!
LET'S TAKE A BREAK!
HERE WE GO...
ザザ
ZHAA...
ZHA

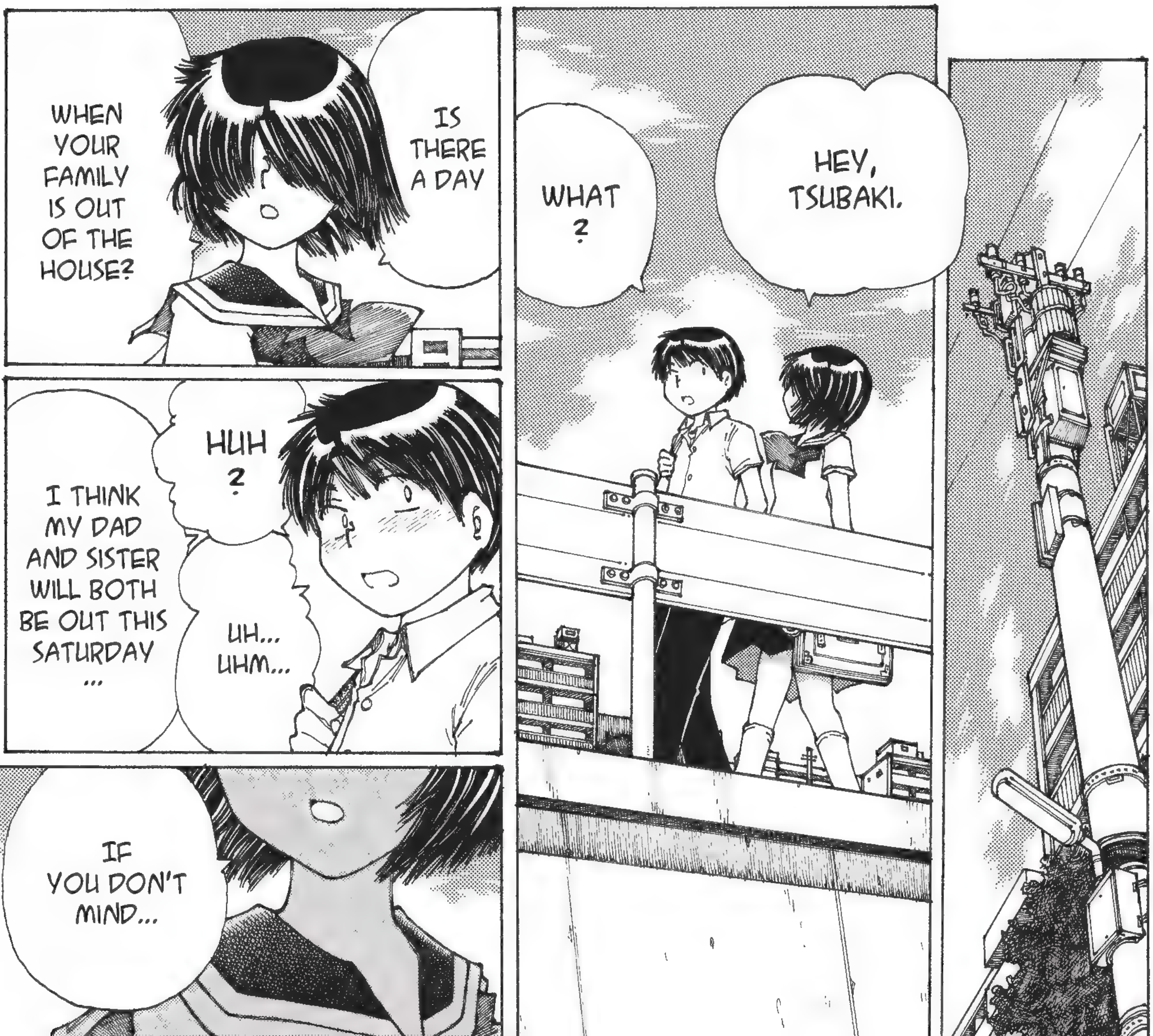

OKA...
DON'T YOU WANT TO SWIM?
THE SUN IS PRETTY HIGH NOW...
HMM ...
SHLP...
URABE,
TASTE THIS...

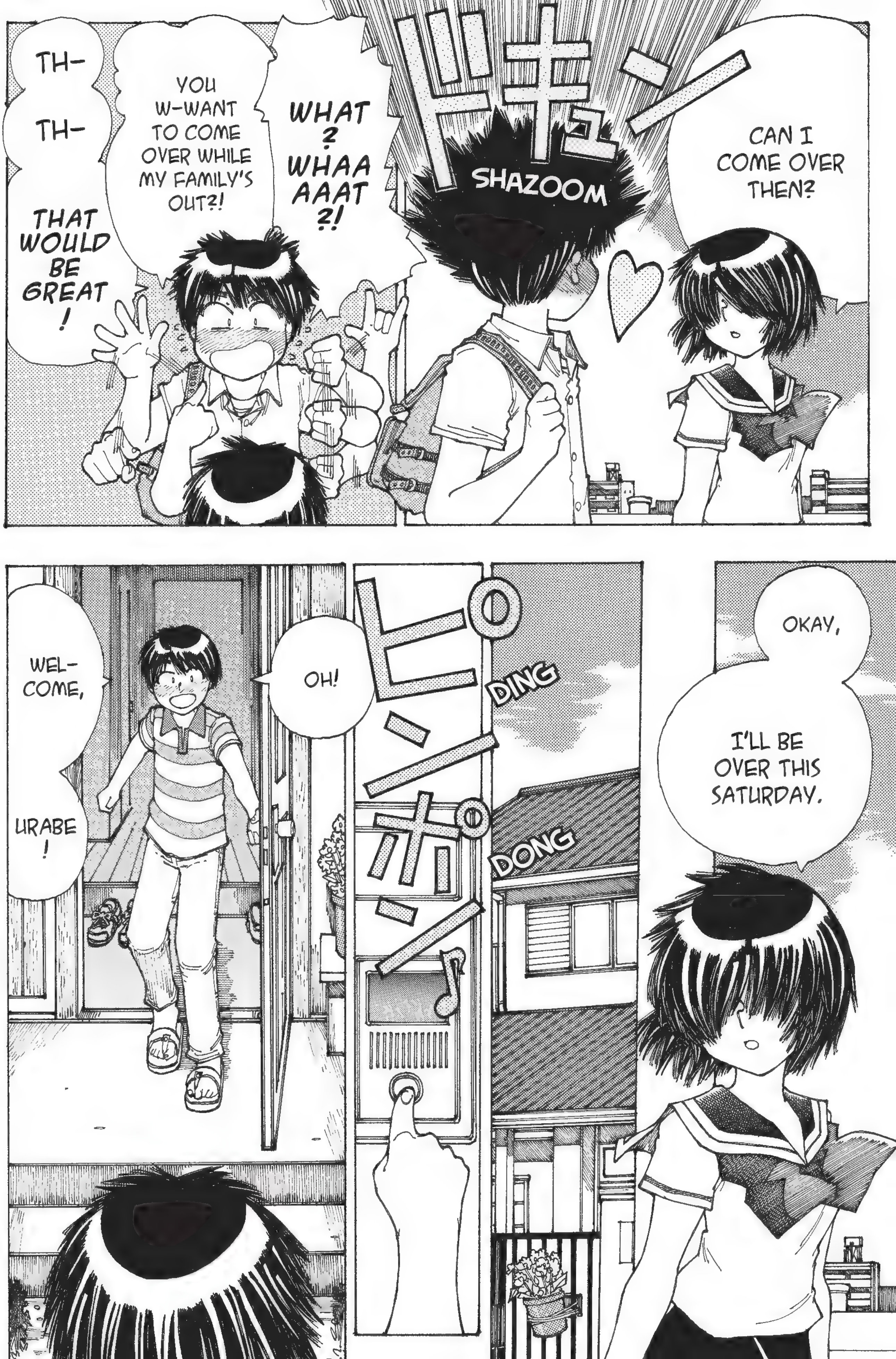

!
...
DID YOU FEEL ANYTHING?
CLUTCH
MY...
MY CHEST FEELS HOT...
YES!
UENO TOUCHED
MY CHEST THE OTHER DAY...

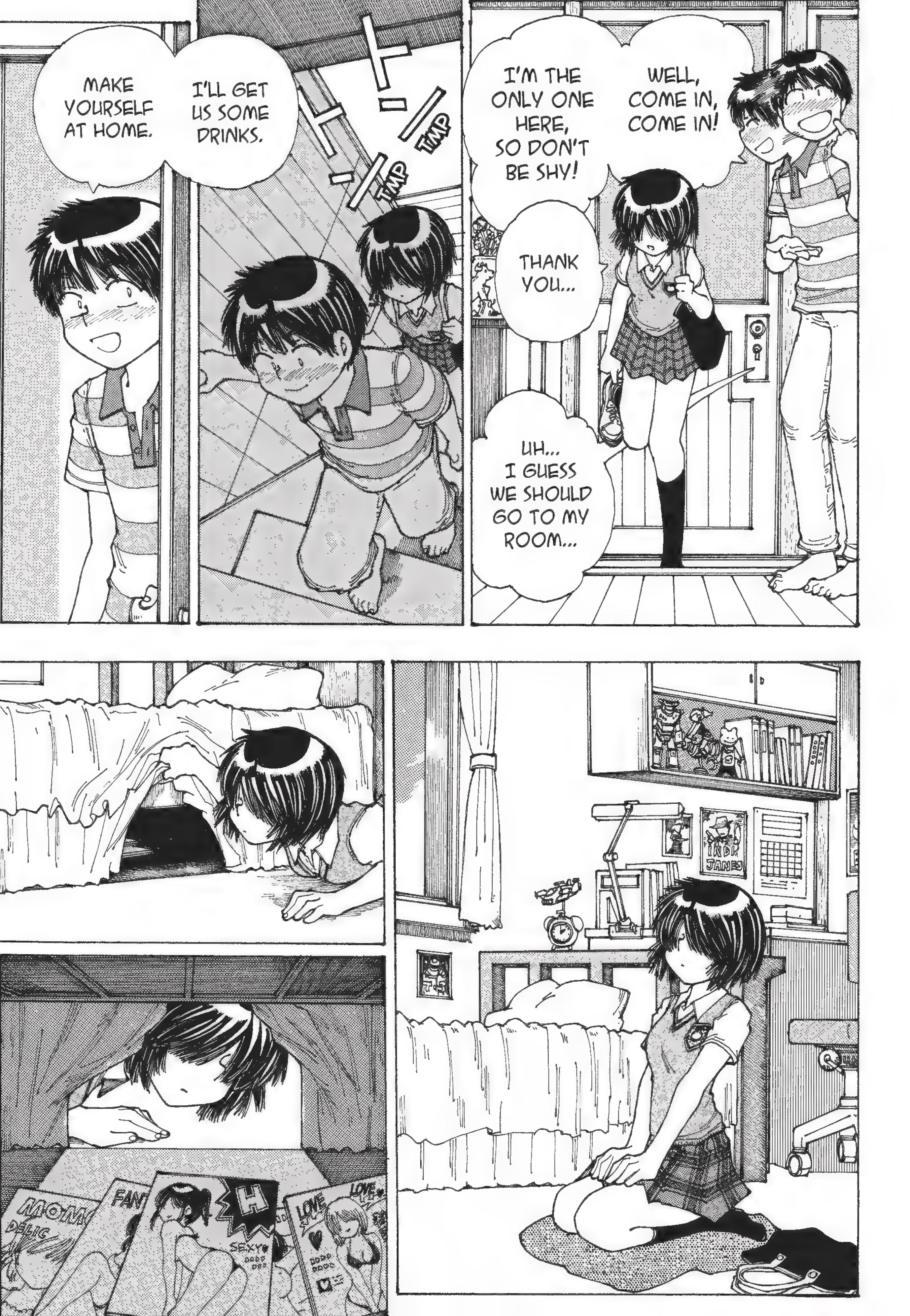

AND HE'S BEEN ACTING WEIRD EVER SINCE.
LIKE TELLING ME TO DRESS DOWN MORE IF I EVER WEAR REVEALING CLOTHES...
GETTING GRUMPY WHEN I CHAT WITH OTHER GUYS IN OUR CLASS...
OR ASKING ME WHERE I'VE BEEN IF I HE CAN'T GET AHOLD OF ME ON A DAY OFF...
I WONDER WHY HE'S SO SUSPICIOUS EVEN THOUGH OUR RELATIONSHIP HAS MADE PROGRESS...
...
THE MORE YOU LIKE SOMEONE,
THE MORE ANXIOUS YOU GET,
AND THE MORE YOU WANT THEM TO YOURSELF.
DOES THAT GO FOR YOU, TOO,
URABE?

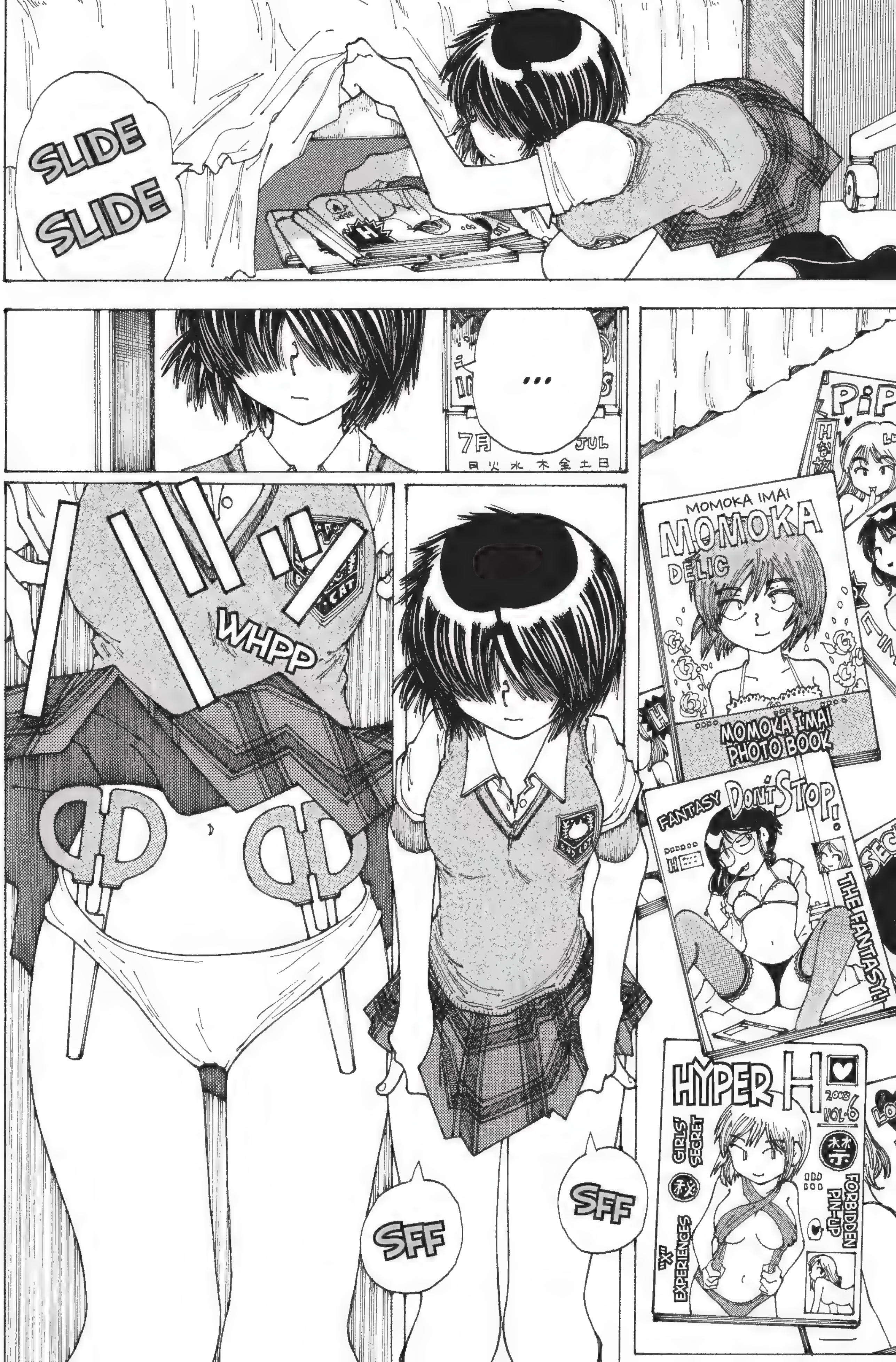

...
I THINK SO...
OH!
BY THE WAY, WHAT HAPPENED
TO THAT MOMOKA IMAI PHOTO BOOK TSUBAKI BOUGHT?
HUH?
UHM ...
I CONFISCATED IT.
ACTUALLY SHE CUT IT UP.
AH HA HA HA...
I THOUGHT YOU WOULD!
WELL,
THE IDEA OF TSUBAKI HAVING ANOTHER GIRL'S PHOTO BOOK...
REALLY BOTHERED ME...
BUT
TSUBAKI IS A TEENAGE BOY.
I'LL BET HE HAS LOTS OF OTHER GIRLS' PHOTO BOOKS, TOO.
LIKE, UNDER HIS BED.
WHAT?
YOU THINK SO?
I'M GETTING HUNGRY!
WANNA GRAB LUNCH SOMEWHERE?

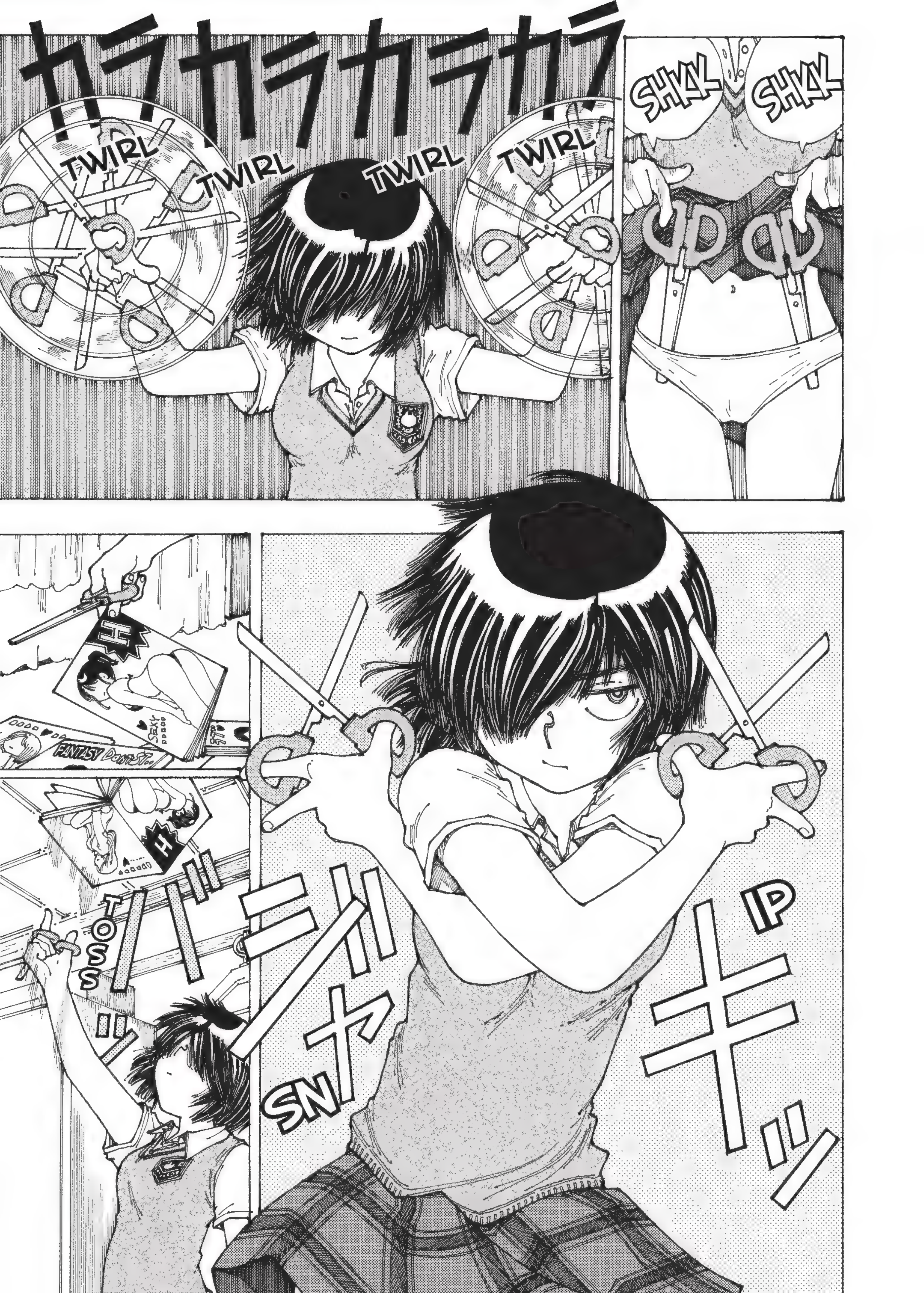

YOU DON'T WANT TO SWIM?
I'M HAPPY ENOUGH JUST SEEING THE OCEAN!
I'LL SWIM SOME OTHER TIME.
...
BUT...

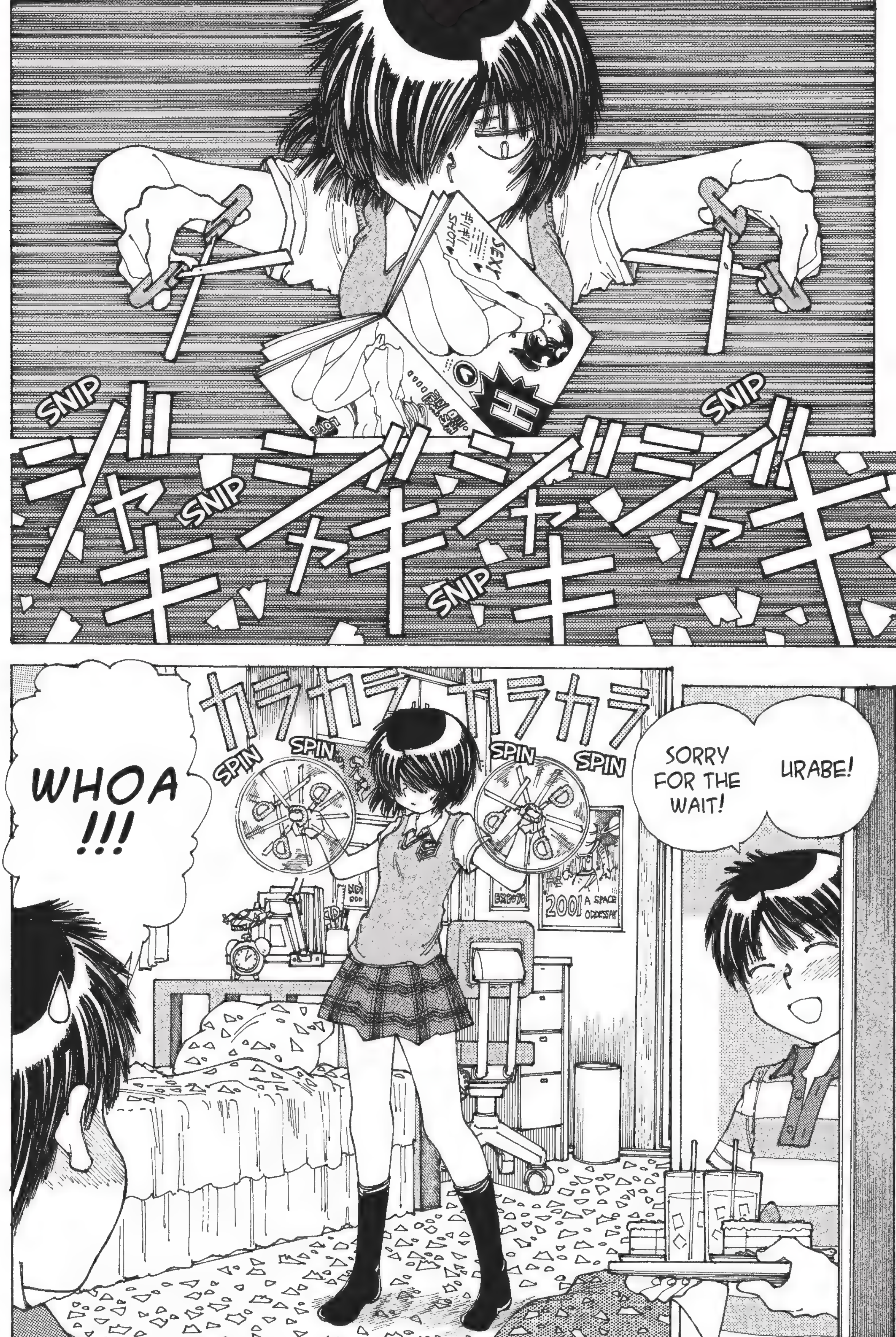

HEY, TSUBAKI.
WHAT?
IS THERE A DAY
WHEN YOUR FAMILY IS OUT OF THE HOUSE?
HUH?
UH... UHM...
I THINK MY DAD AND SISTER WILL BOTH BE OUT THIS SATURDAY...
IF YOU DON'T MIND...

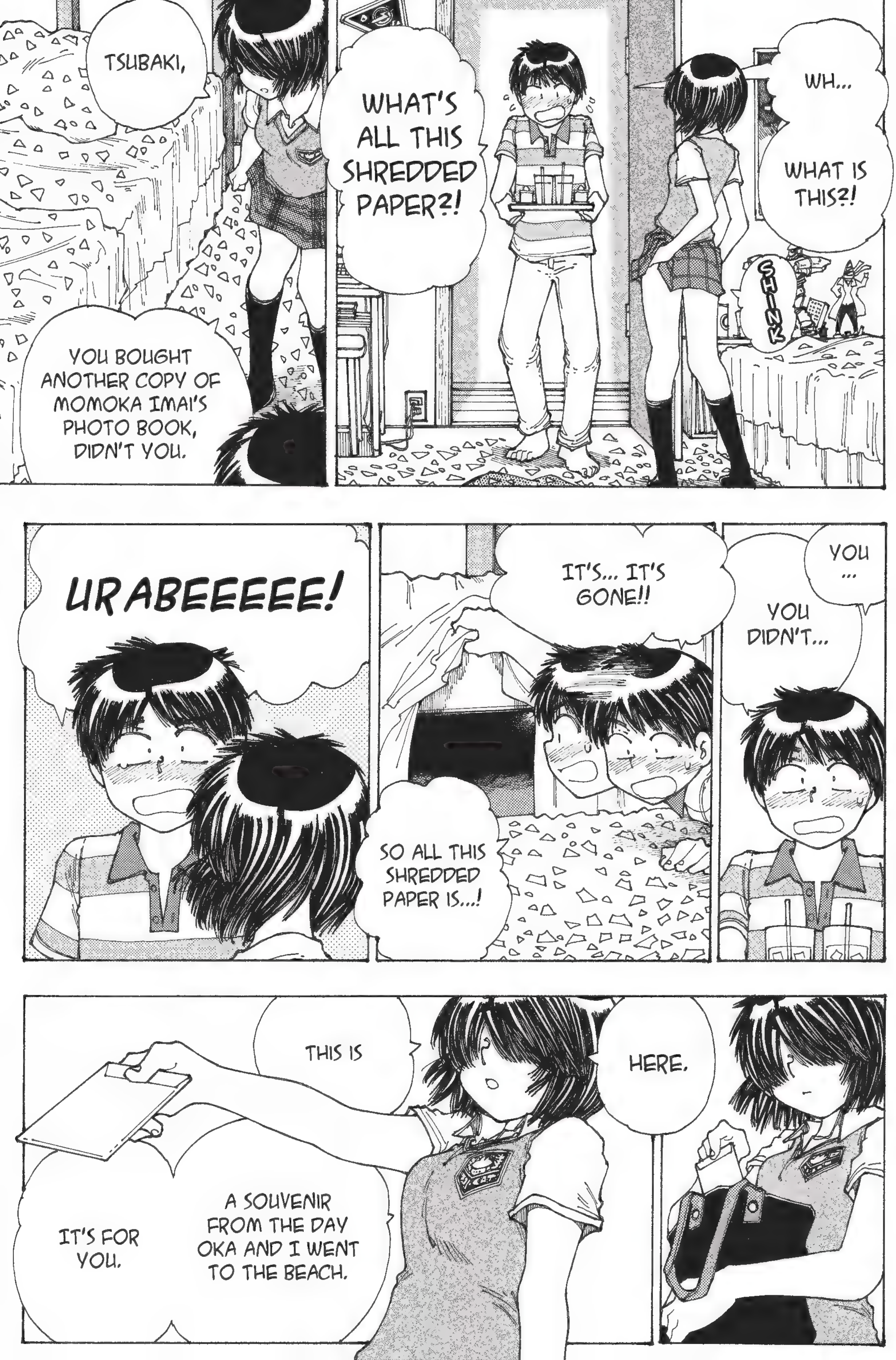

CAN I COME OVER THEN?
ドキューン
SHAZOOM
WHAT? WHAAAAAT?!
YOU W-WANT TO COME OVER WHILE MY FAMILY'S OUT?!
TH- TH- THAT WOULD BE GREAT!
OKAY, I'LL BE OVER THIS SATURDAY.
ピンポーン
DING
DONG
OH!
WELCOME, URABE!

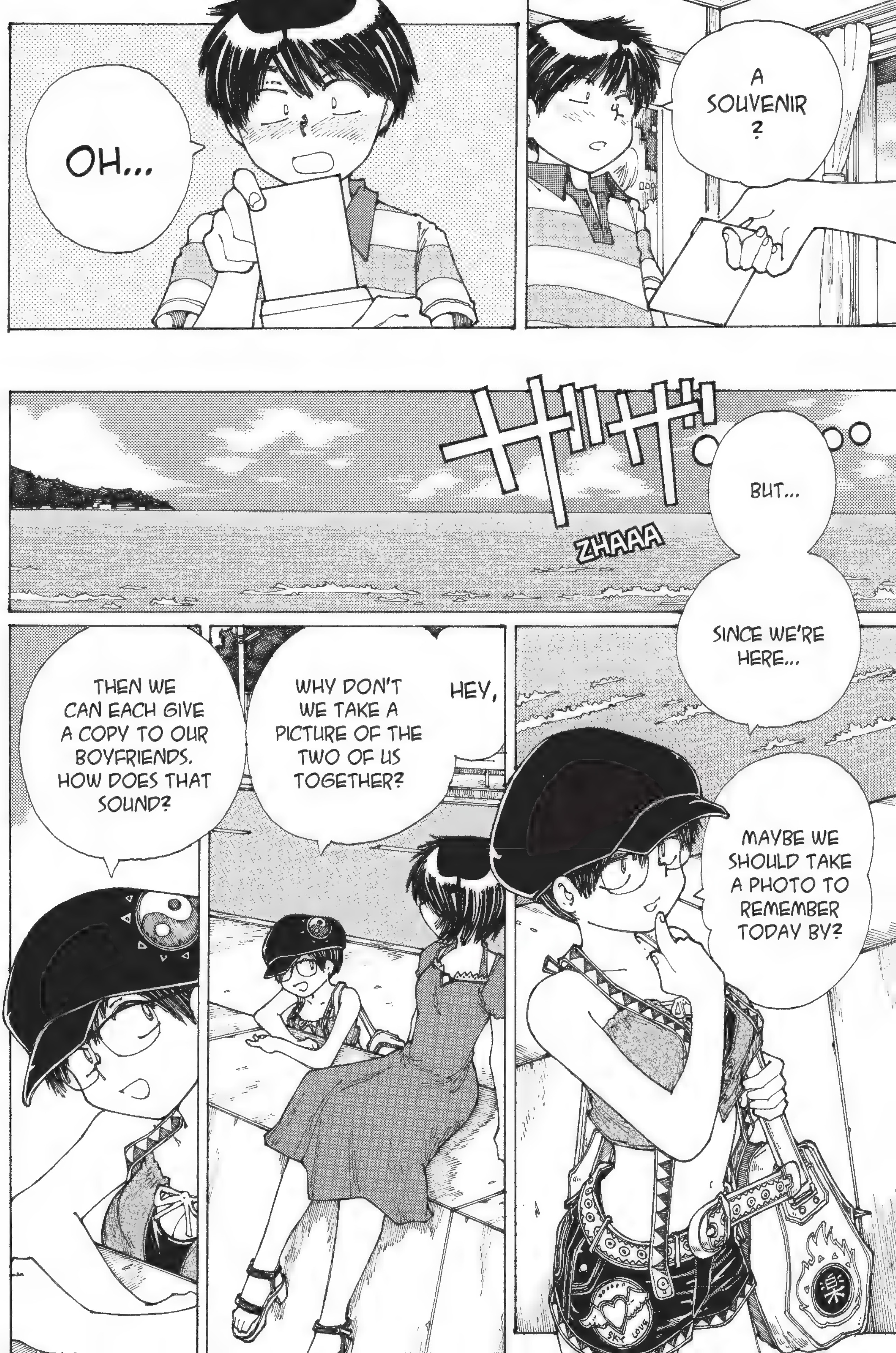

WELL, COME IN, COME IN!
I'M THE ONLY ONE HERE, SO DON'T BE SHY!
THANK YOU...
UH... I GUESS WE SHOULD GO TO MY ROOM...
TMP
TMP
TMP
I'LL GET US SOME DRINKS.
MAKE YOURSELF AT HOME.
LOVE
LOVE
SEXY
H
FAN
MOMO DELIC

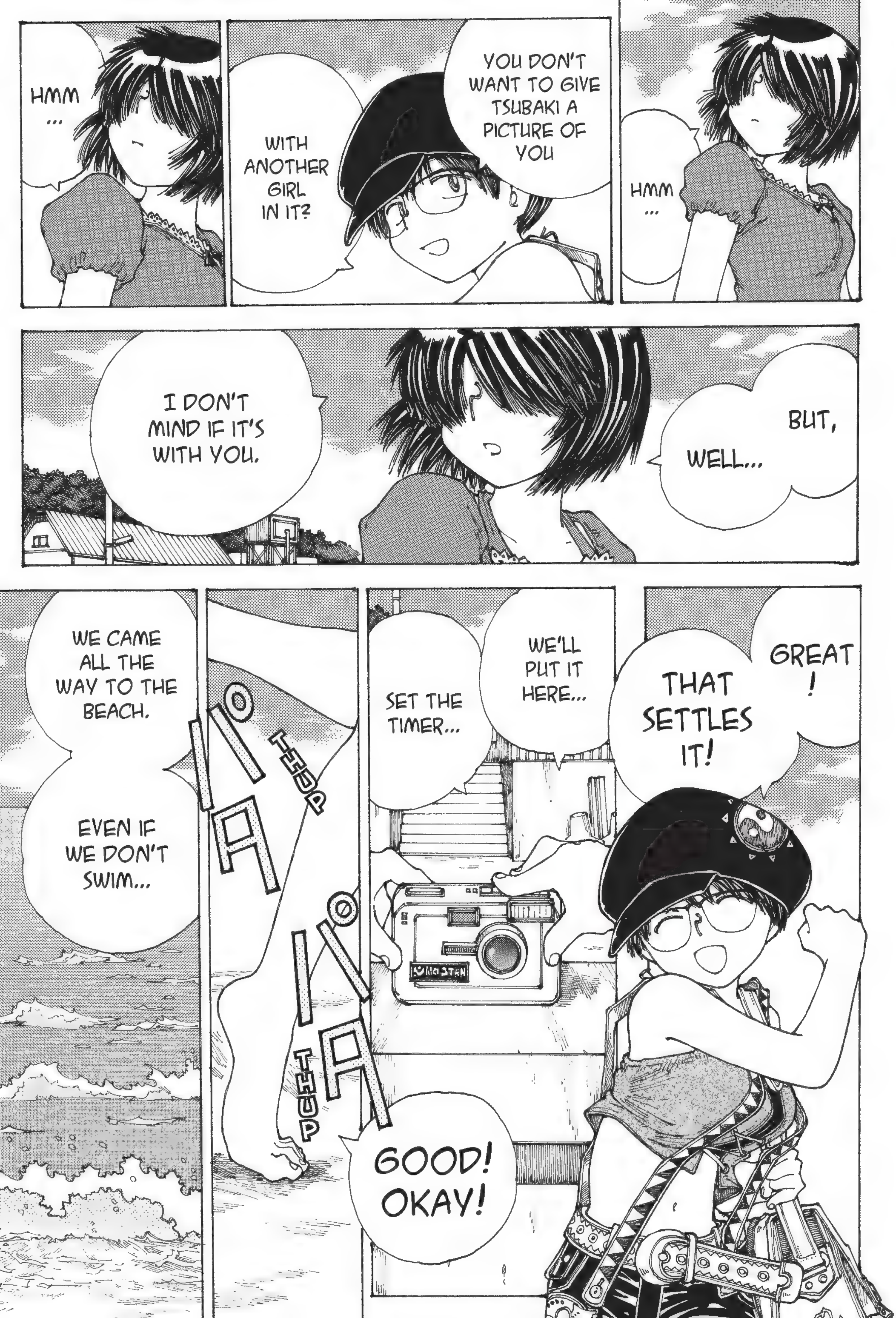

SLIDE SLIDE
PiP
MOMOKA IMAI
MOMOKA DELIC
MOMOKA IMAI PHOTO BOOK
FANTASY DON'T STOP!
THE FANTASY!
HYPER H 2008 VOL.6
禁
FORBIDDEN PIN-UP
GIRLS' SECRET
秘
"X" EXPERIENCES
...
7月 JUL
月火水木金土日
SFF
SFF
WHPP

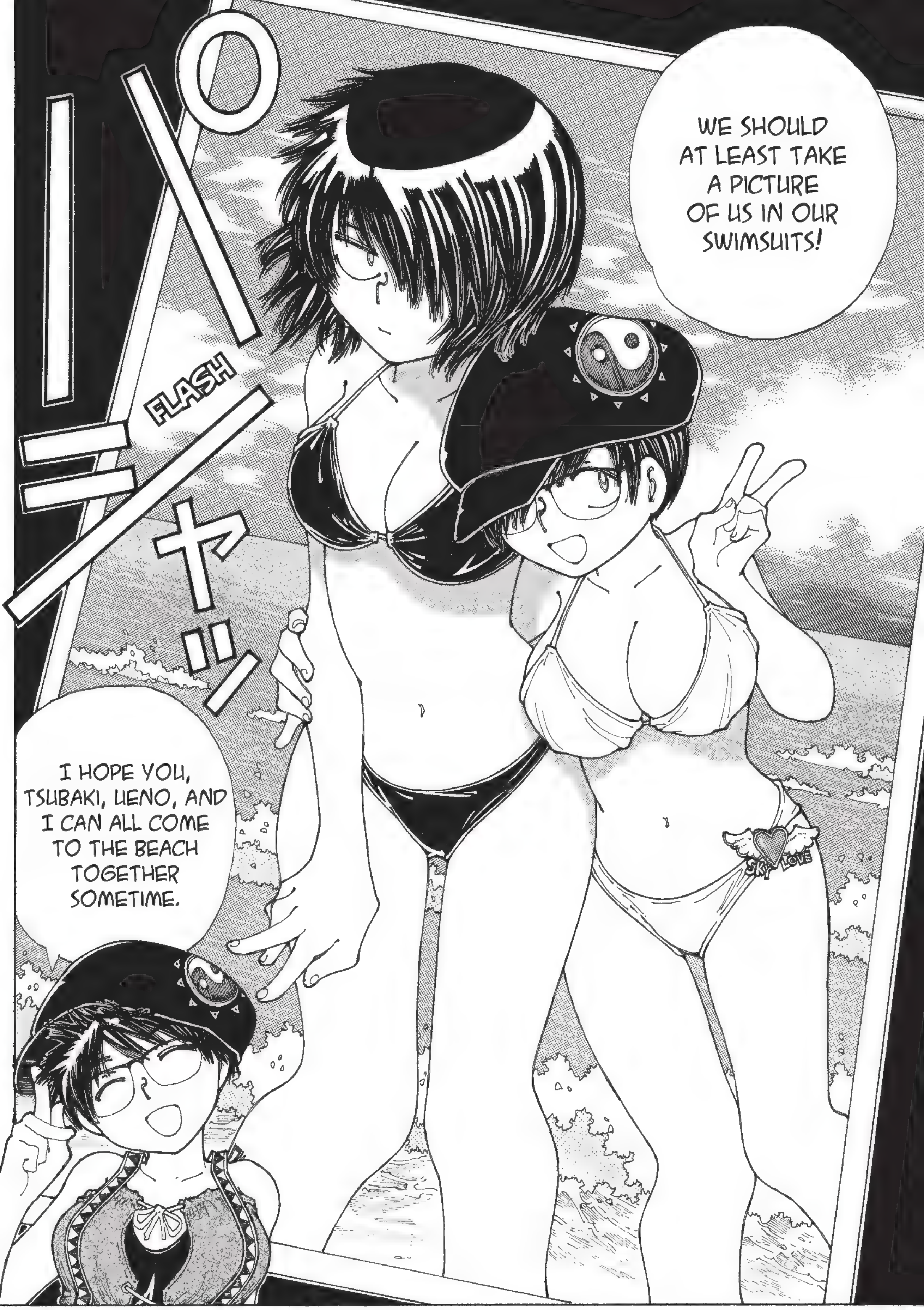

SHAK
SHAK
カラカラカラカラ
TWIRL
TWIRL
TWIRL
TWIRL
ジャキッ
SN
IP
H
SEXY
FANTASY
Don't St..
H
バッ
TOSS


SEXY
SHOT
H
SNIP
SNIP
SNIP
SNIP
ジャキジャキジャキジャキ
カラカラ カラカラ
SPIN
SPIN
SPIN
SPIN
URABE!
SORRY FOR THE WAIT!
WHOA !!!
EXPO70
2001 A SPACE ODDESSAY


WH...
WHAT IS THIS?!
SHINK
WHAT'S ALL THIS SHREDDED PAPER?!
TSUBAKI,
YOU BOUGHT ANOTHER COPY OF MOMOKA IMAI'S PHOTO BOOK, DIDN'T YOU.
YOU ...
YOU DIDN'T...
IT'S... IT'S GONE!!
SO ALL THIS SHREDDED PAPER IS...!
URABEEEEE!
HERE.
THIS IS
A SOUVENIR FROM THE DAY OKA AND I WENT TO THE BEACH.
IT'S FOR YOU.

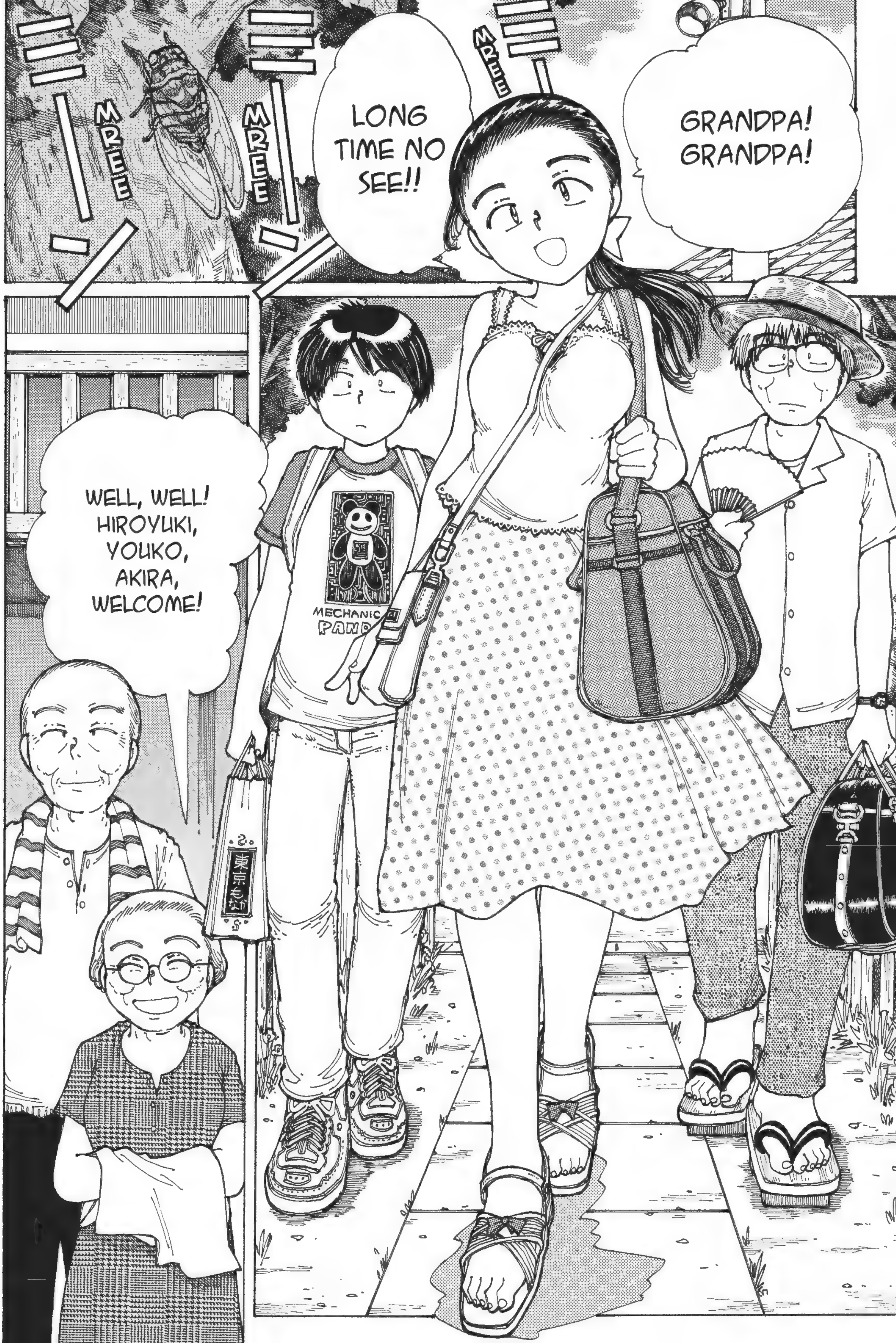

A SOUVENIR?
OH...
ZHAAA
BUT...
SINCE WE'RE HERE...
MAYBE WE SHOULD TAKE A PHOTO TO REMEMBER TODAY BY?
HEY,
WHY DON'T WE TAKE A PICTURE OF THE TWO OF US TOGETHER?
THEN WE CAN EACH GIVE A COPY TO OUR BOYFRIENDS. HOW DOES THAT SOUND?

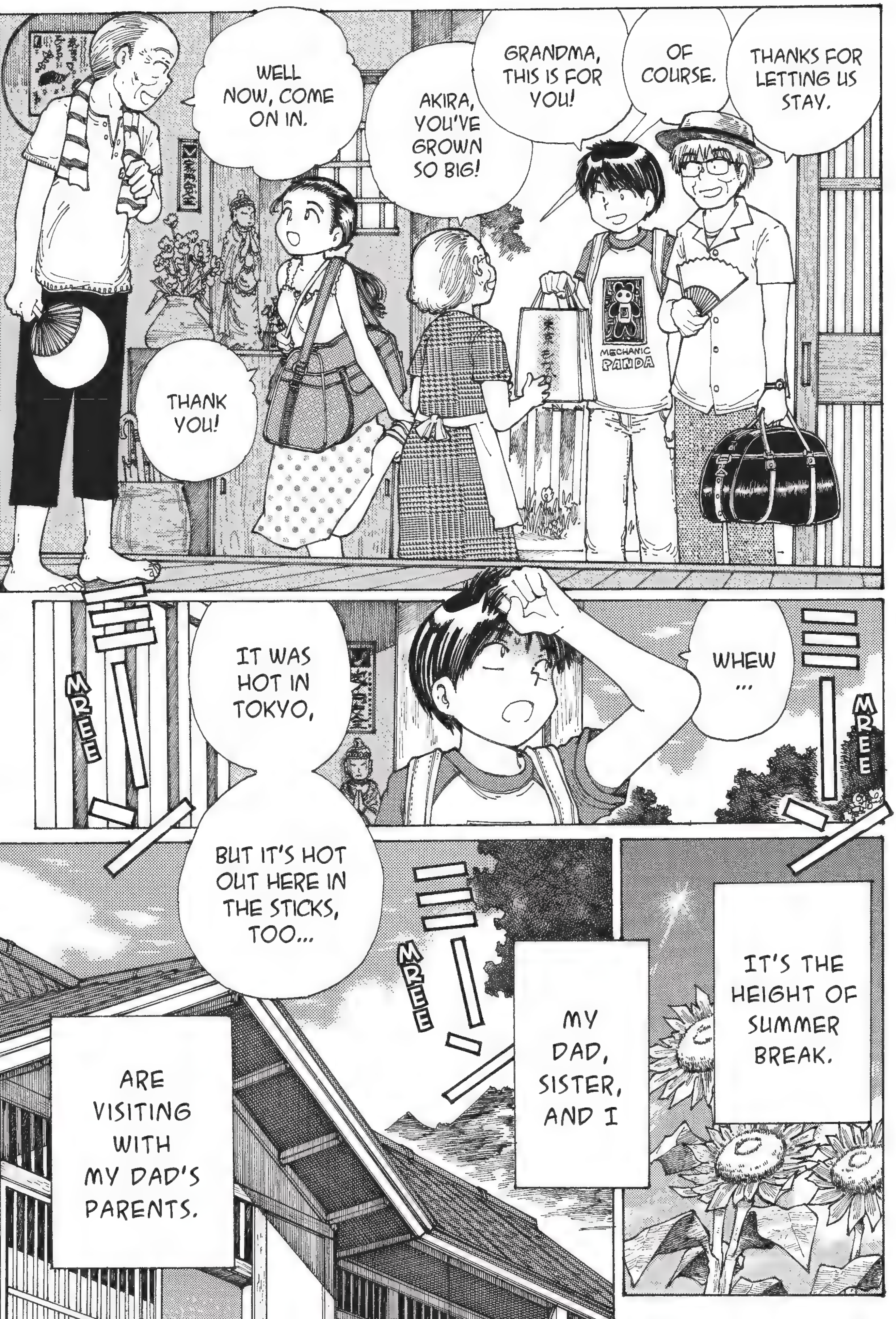

HMM ...
YOU DON'T WANT TO GIVE TSUBAKI A PICTURE OF YOU
WITH ANOTHER GIRL IN IT?
HMM ...
BUT, WELL...
I DON'T MIND IF IT'S WITH YOU.
GREAT!
THAT SETTLES IT!
WE'LL PUT IT HERE...
SET THE TIMER...
GOOD! OKAY!
パ
THUD
パ
THUD
WE CAME ALL THE WAY TO THE BEACH.
EVEN IF WE DON'T SWIM...

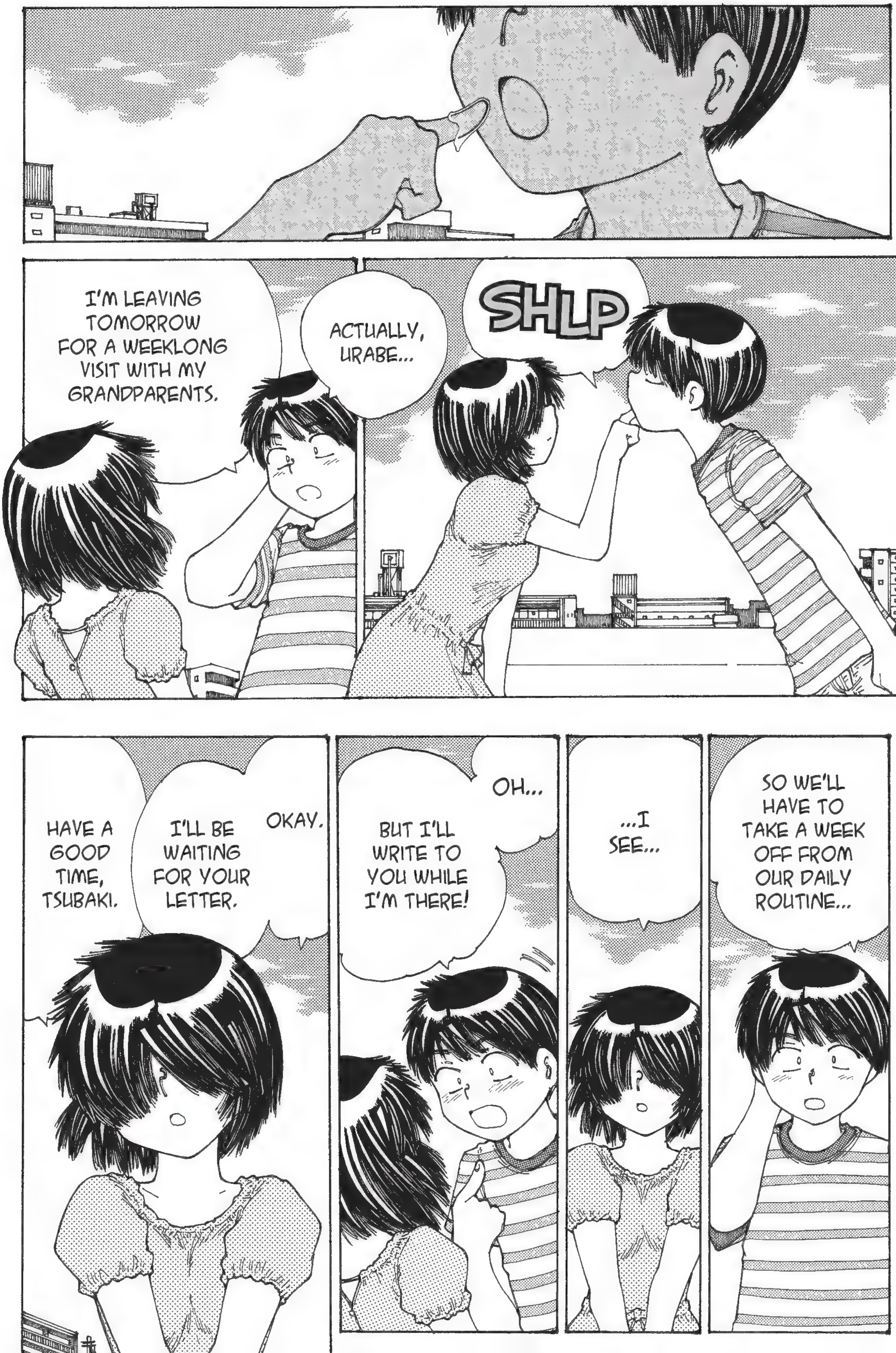

WE SHOULD AT LEAST TAKE A PICTURE OF US IN OUR SWIMSUITS!
パ
ー
ヤ
ッ
FLASH
I HOPE YOU, TSUBAKI, UENO, AND I CAN ALL COME TO THE BEACH TOGETHER SOMETIME.
SKY LOVE

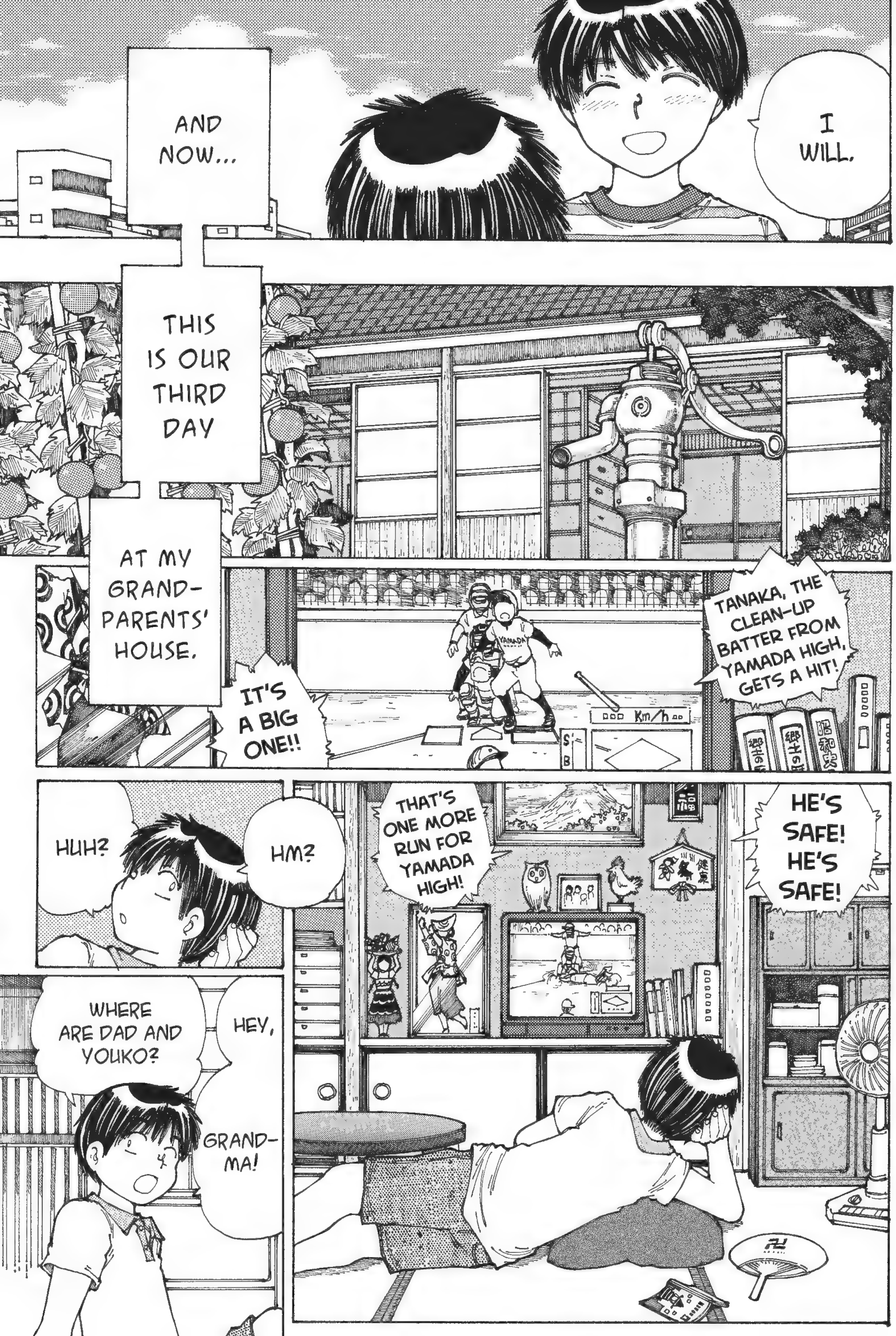
END OF CHAPTER 26

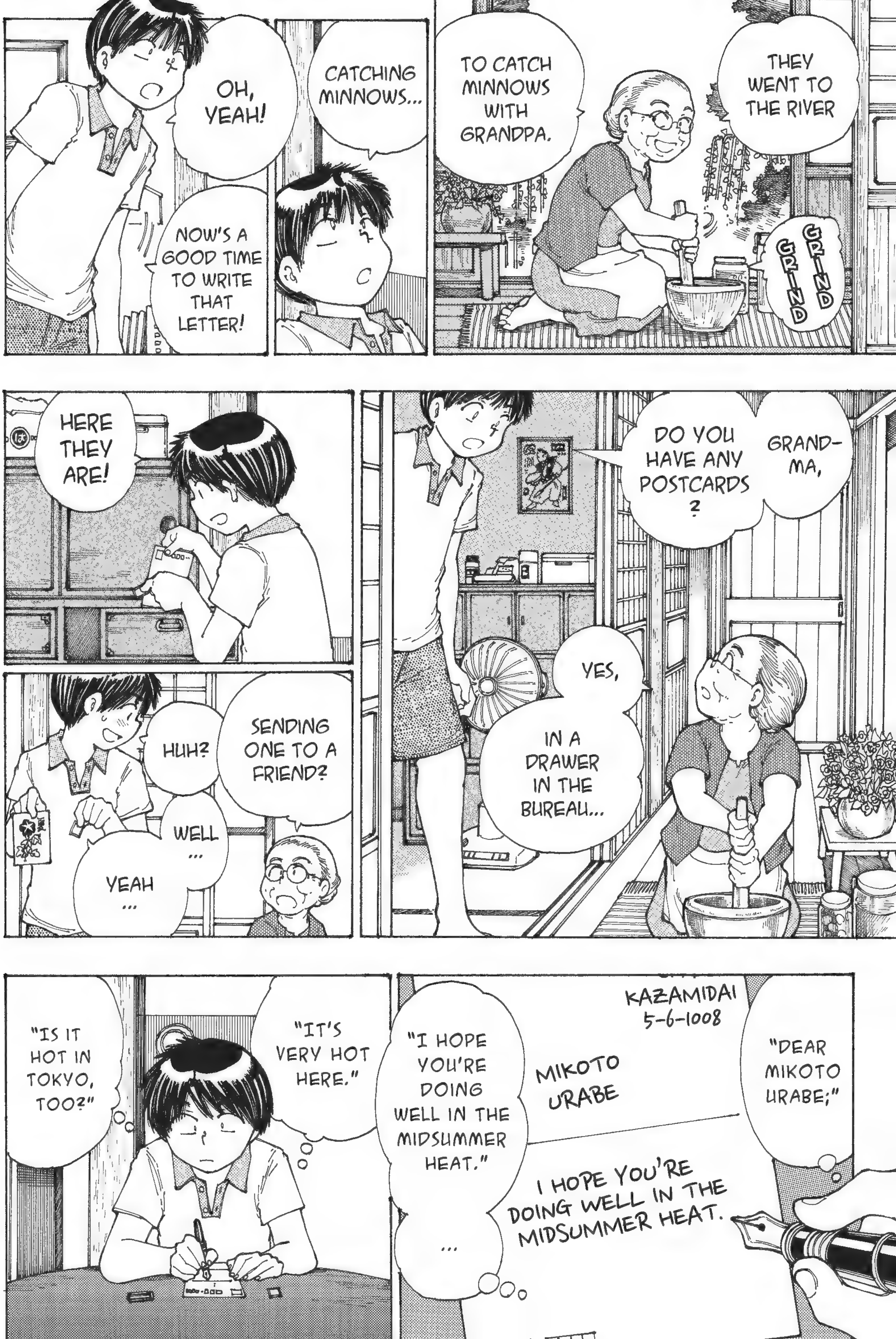
CHAPTER 27: MYSTERIOUS MIDSUMMER GREETING

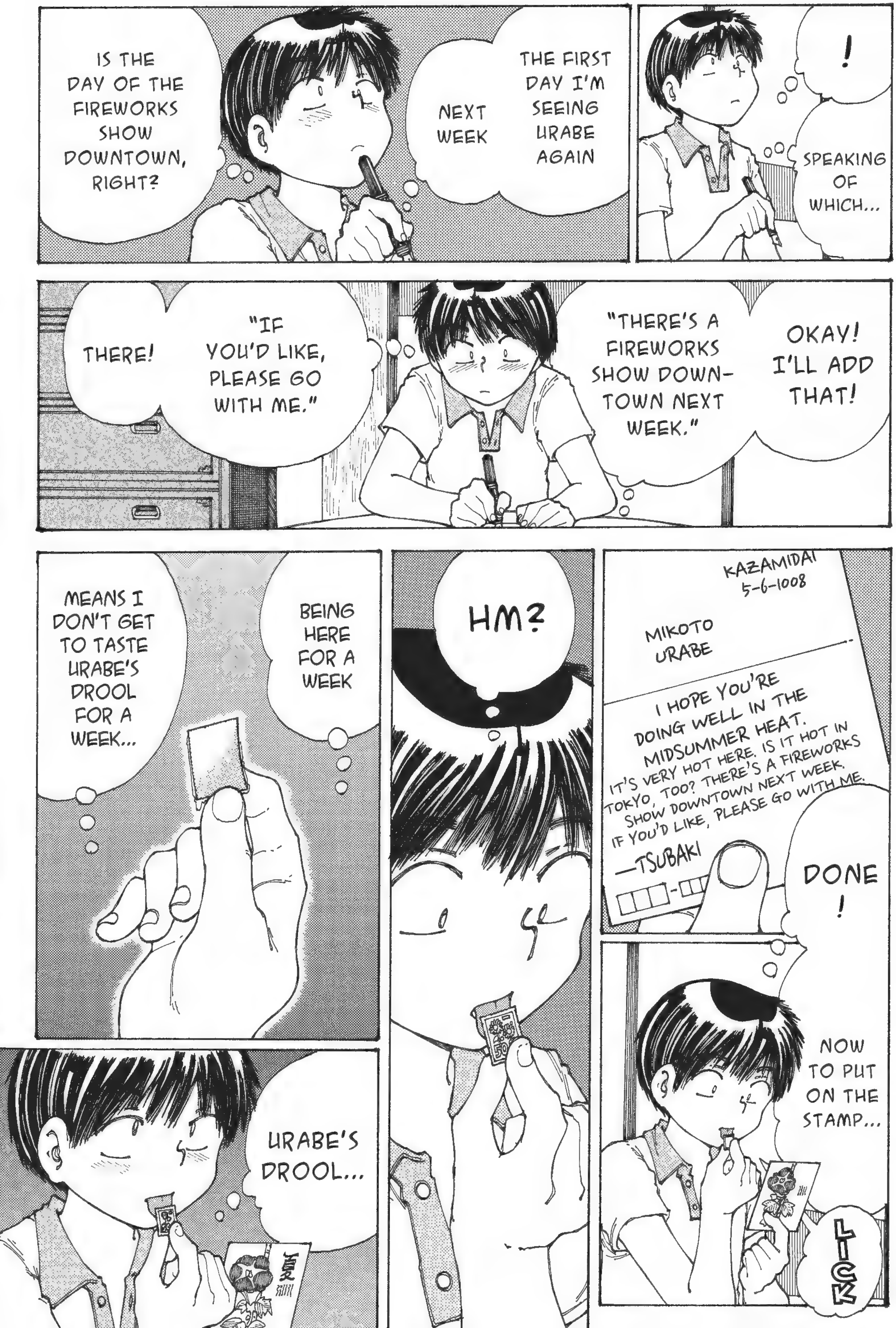

MREE
GRANDPA! GRANDPA!
LONG TIME NO SEE!!
MREEE
MREEE
WELL, WELL! HIROYUKI, YOUKO, AKIRA, WELCOME!
MECHANICAL PANDA

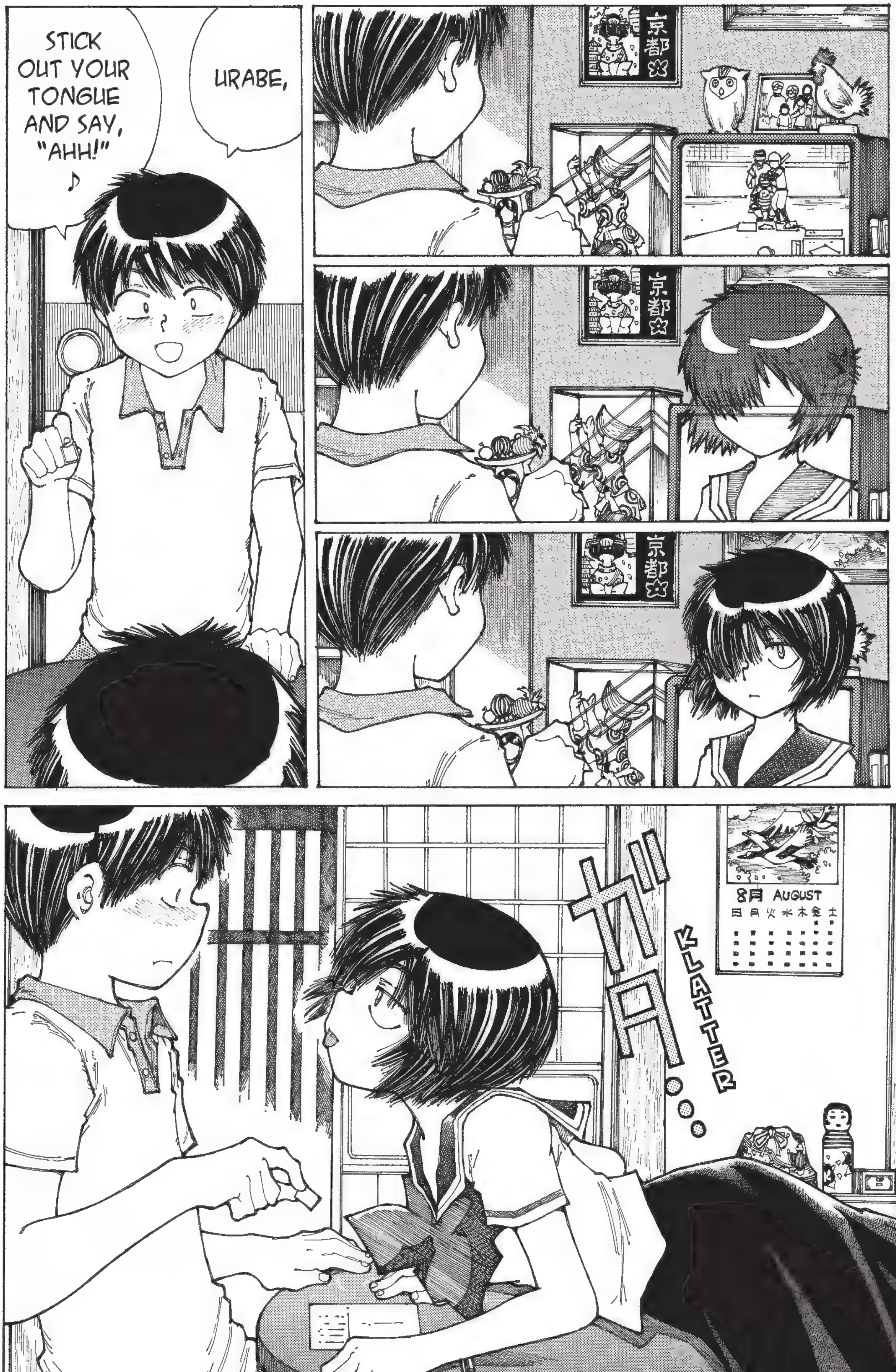

THANKS FOR LETTING US STAY.
OF COURSE.
GRANDMA, THIS IS FOR YOU!
AKIRA, YOU'VE GROWN SO BIG!
WELL NOW, COME ON IN.
THANK YOU!
MECHANIC PANDA
MREE
WHEW ...
IT WAS HOT IN TOKYO,
BUT IT'S HOT OUT HERE IN THE STICKS, TOO...
MREE
IT'S THE HEIGHT OF SUMMER BREAK.
MREE
MY DAD, SISTER, AND I
ARE VISITING WITH MY DAD'S PARENTS.

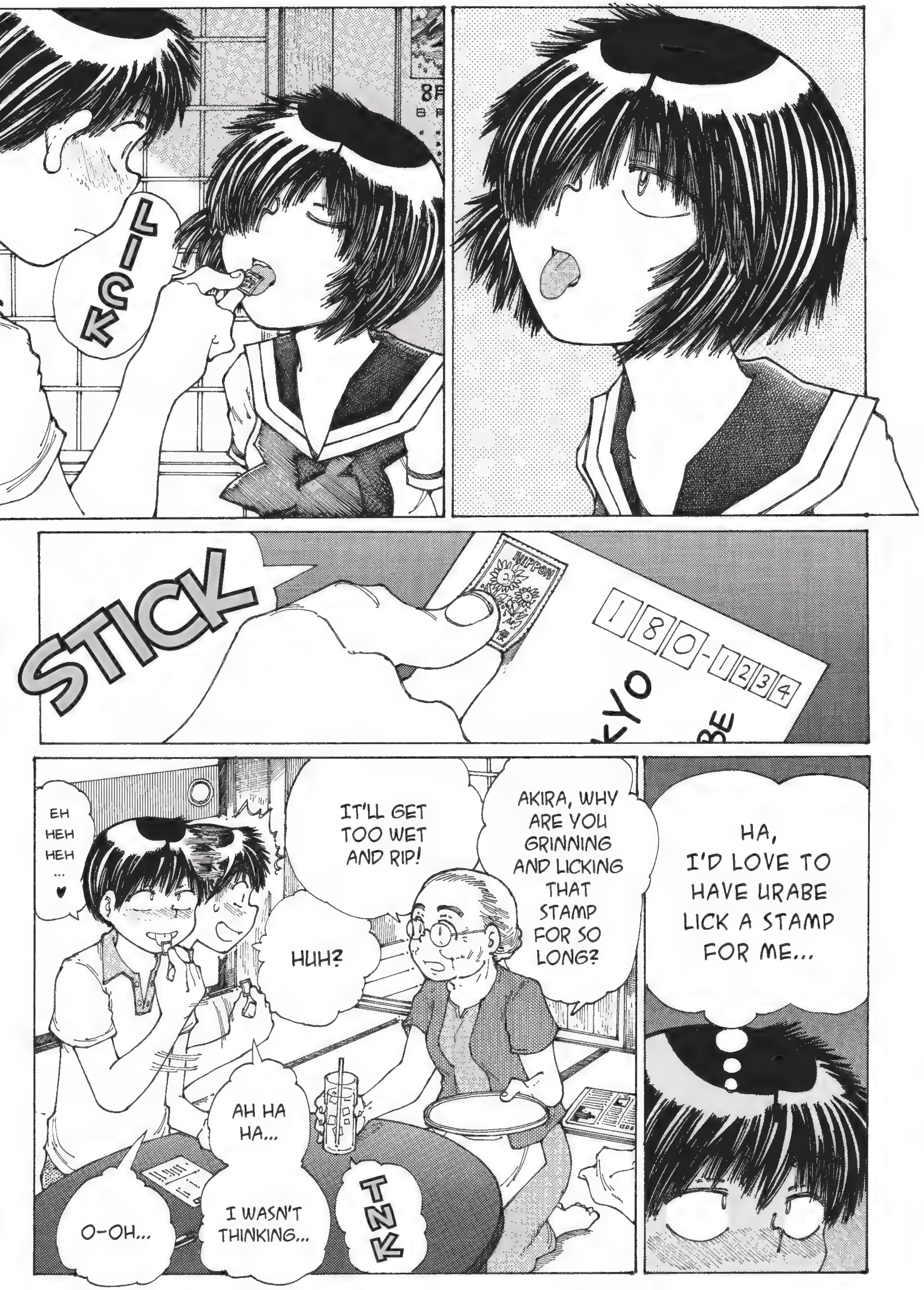

SHLP
ACTUALLY, URABE...
I'M LEAVING TOMORROW FOR A WEEKLONG VISIT WITH MY GRANDPARENTS.
SO WE'LL HAVE TO TAKE A WEEK OFF FROM OUR DAILY ROUTINE...
...I SEE...
OH...
BUT I'LL WRITE TO YOU WHILE I'M THERE!
OKAY.
I'LL BE WAITING FOR YOUR LETTER.
HAVE A GOOD TIME, TSUBAKI.

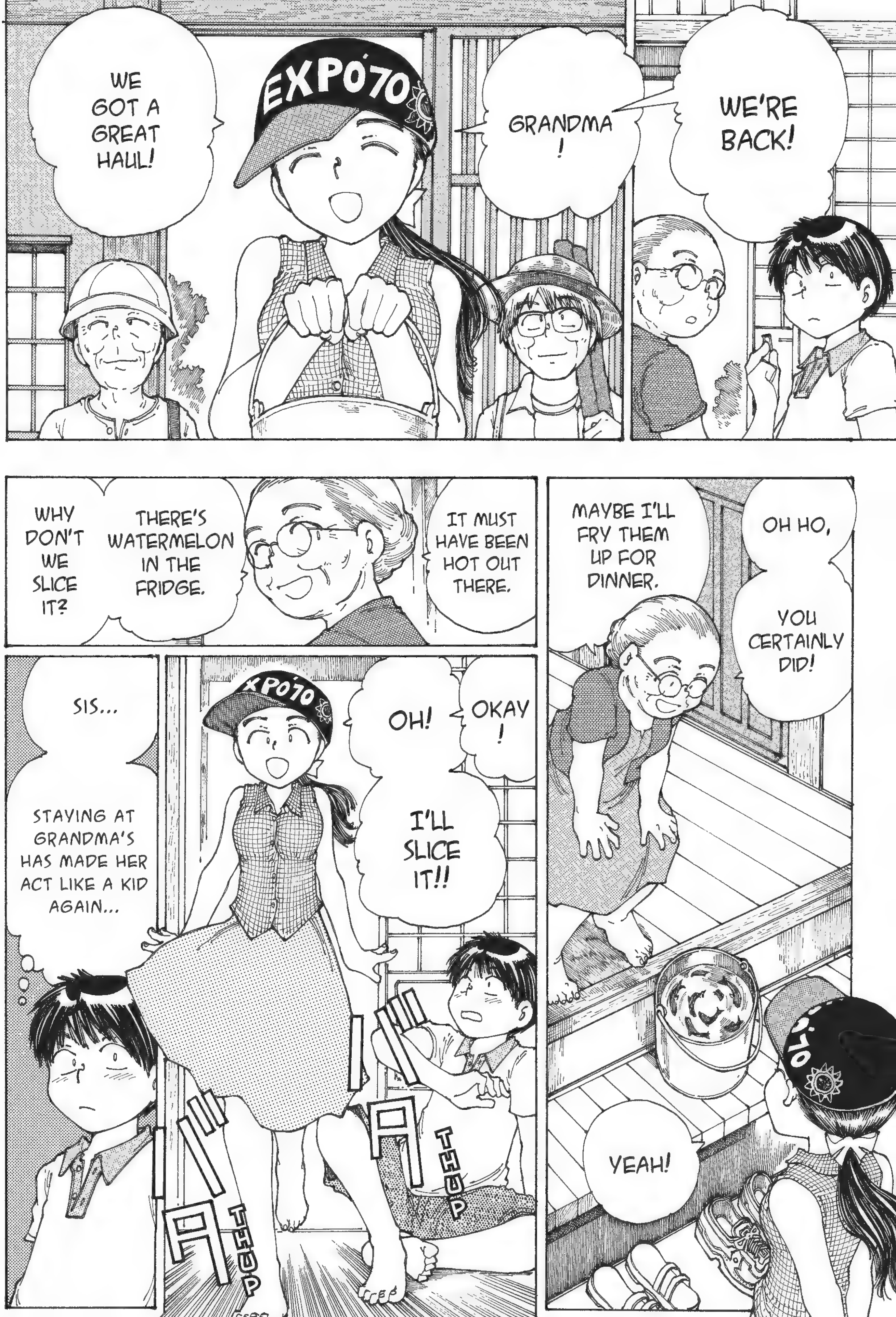

I WILL.
AND NOW...
THIS IS OUR THIRD DAY
AT MY GRANDPARENTS' HOUSE.
TANAKA, THE CLEAN-UP BATTER FROM YAMADA HIGH, GETS A HIT!
IT'S A BIG ONE!!
YAMADA
Km/h
HE'S SAFE! HE'S SAFE!
THAT'S ONE MORE RUN FOR YAMADA HIGH!
HM?
HUH?
HEY, GRANDMA!
WHERE ARE DAD AND YOUKO?

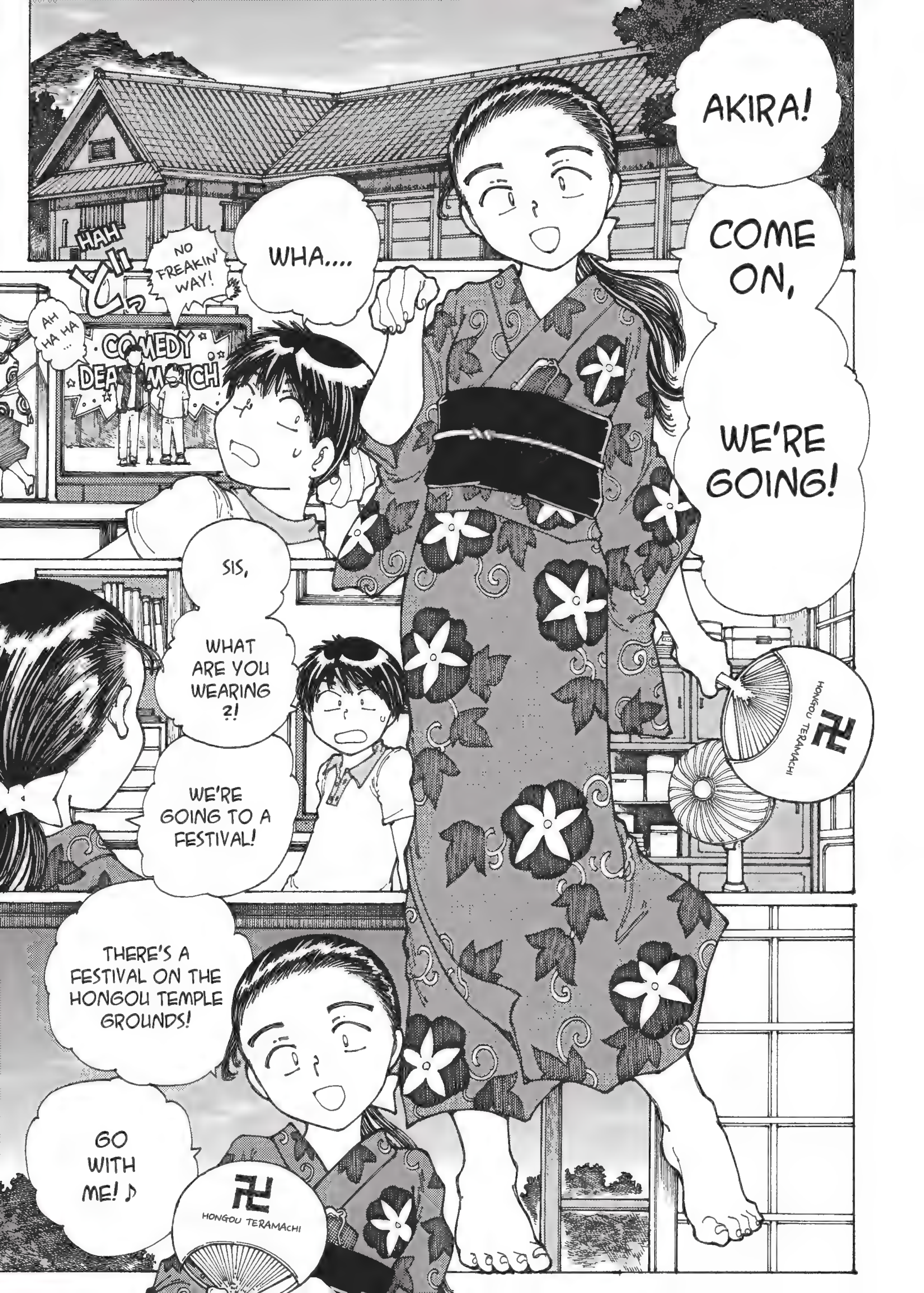

THEY WENT TO THE RIVER
TO CATCH MINNOWS WITH GRANDPA.
GRIND GRIND
CATCHING MINNOWS...
OH, YEAH!
NOW'S A GOOD TIME TO WRITE THAT LETTER!
GRAND-MA,
DO YOU HAVE ANY POSTCARDS?
YES,
IN A DRAWER IN THE BUREAU...
HERE THEY ARE!
SENDING ONE TO A FRIEND?
HUH?
WELL...
YEAH...
"DEAR MIKOTO URABE;"
KAZAMIDAI 5-6-1008
MIKOTO URABE
I HOPE YOU'RE DOING WELL IN THE MIDSUMMER HEAT.
"I HOPE YOU'RE DOING WELL IN THE MIDSUMMER HEAT."
...
"IT'S VERY HOT HERE."
"IS IT HOT IN TOKYO, TOO?"

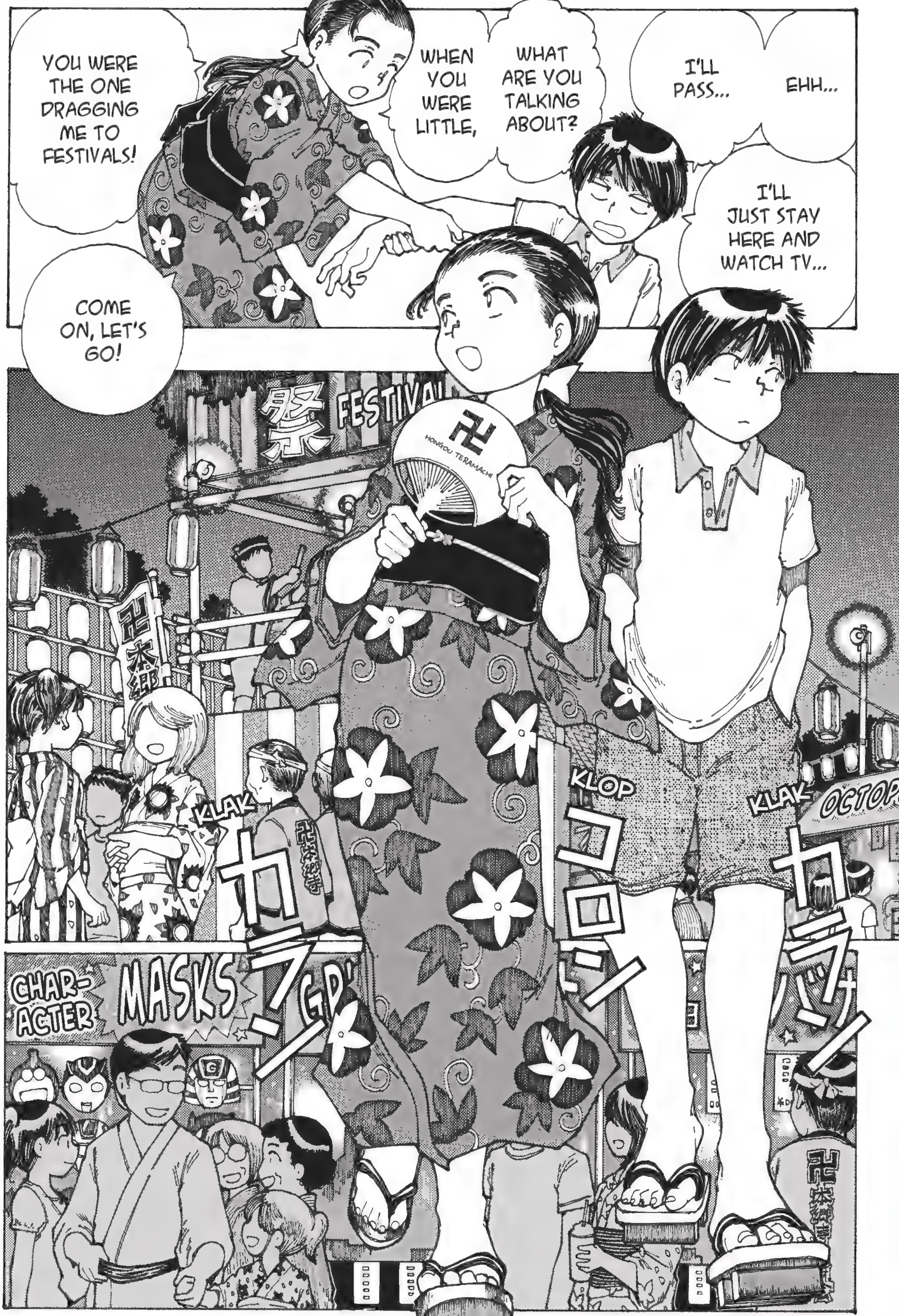

!
SPEAKING OF WHICH...
THE FIRST DAY I'M SEEING URABE AGAIN
NEXT WEEK
IS THE DAY OF THE FIREWORKS SHOW DOWNTOWN, RIGHT?
OKAY! I'LL ADD THAT!
"THERE'S A FIREWORKS SHOW DOWNTOWN NEXT WEEK."
"IF YOU'D LIKE, PLEASE GO WITH ME."
THERE!
KAZAMIDAI 5-6-1008
MIKOTO URABE
I HOPE YOU'RE DOING WELL IN THE MIDSUMMER HEAT. IT'S VERY HOT HERE. IS IT HOT IN TOKYO, TOO? THERE'S A FIREWORKS SHOW DOWNTOWN NEXT WEEK. IF YOU'D LIKE, PLEASE GO WITH ME.
—TSUBAKI
DONE!
NOW TO PUT ON THE STAMP...
LICK
HM?
BEING HERE FOR A WEEK
MEANS I DON'T GET TO TASTE URABE'S DROOL FOR A WEEK...
URABE'S DROOL...

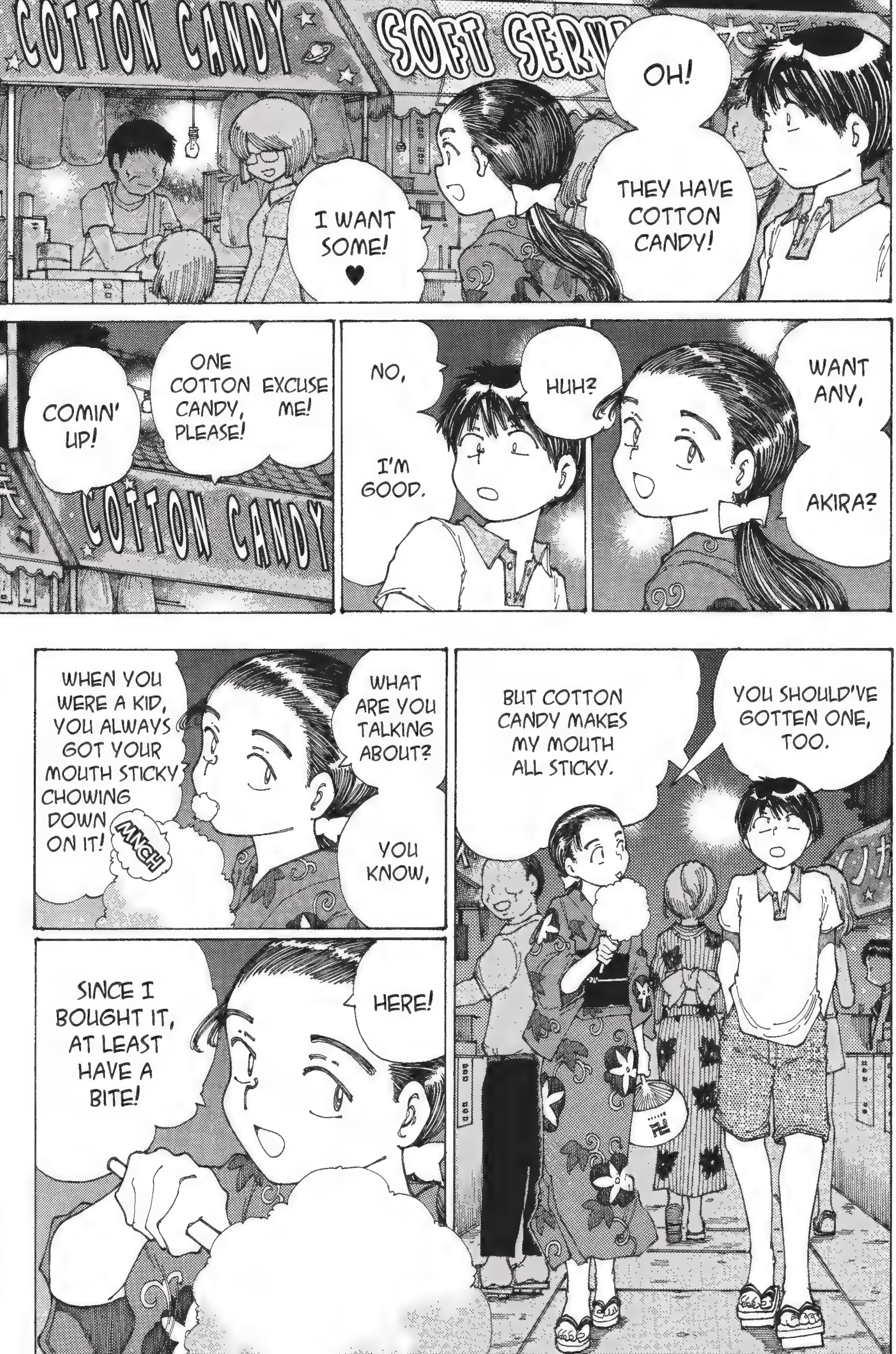

京都
京都
京都
URABE,
STICK OUT YOUR TONGUE AND SAY, "AHH!" ♪
8月 AUGUST
日 月 火 水 木 金 土
ガア...
KLATTER

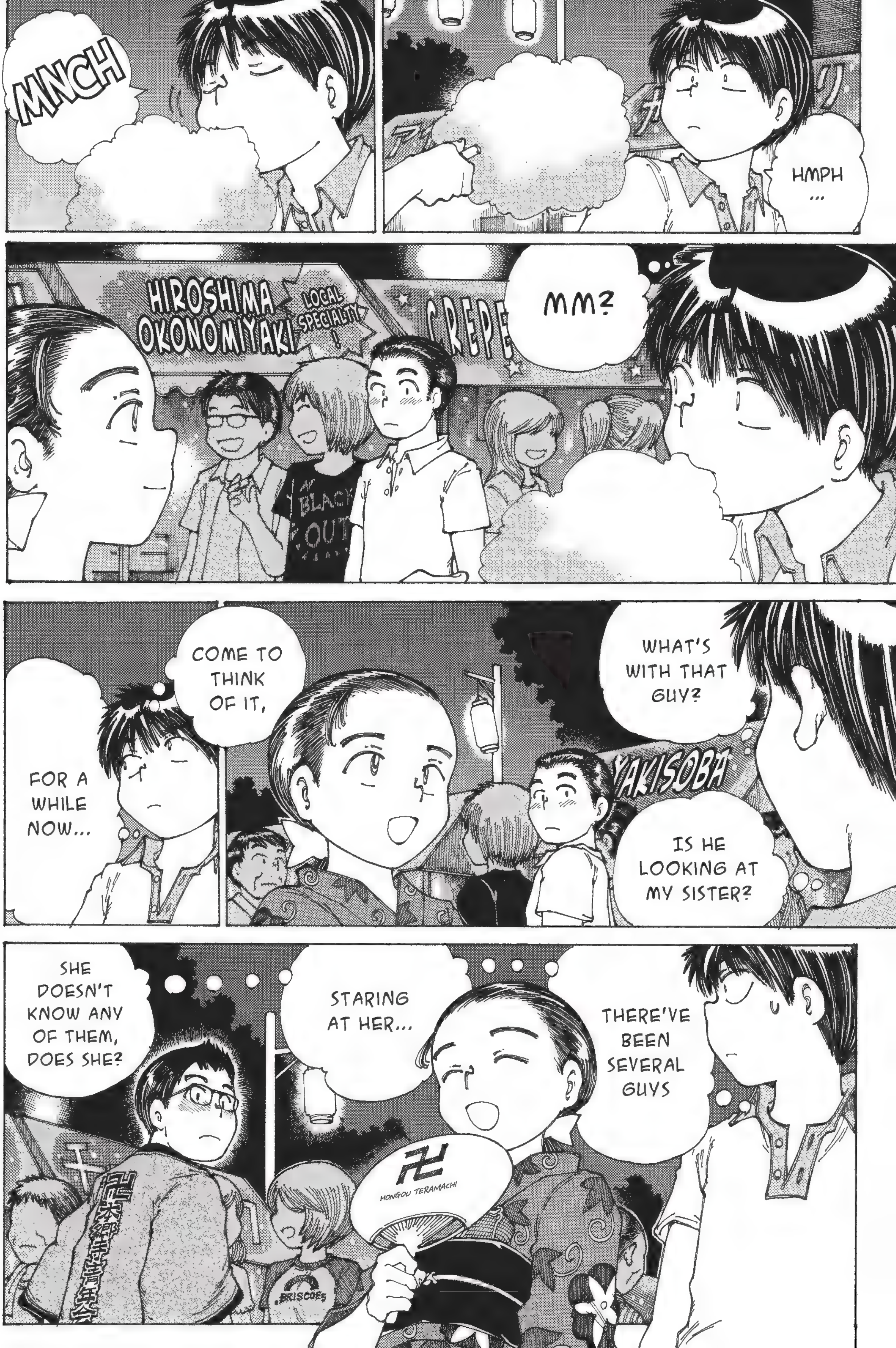

8月
LICK
STICK
NIPPON
180-1234
KYO
BE
HA, I'D LOVE TO HAVE URABE LICK A STAMP FOR ME...
AKIRA, WHY ARE YOU GRINNING AND LICKING THAT STAMP FOR SO LONG?
IT'LL GET TOO WET AND RIP!
HUH?
EH HEH HEH ... ♥
TNK
I WASN'T THINKING...
AH HA HA...
O-OH...

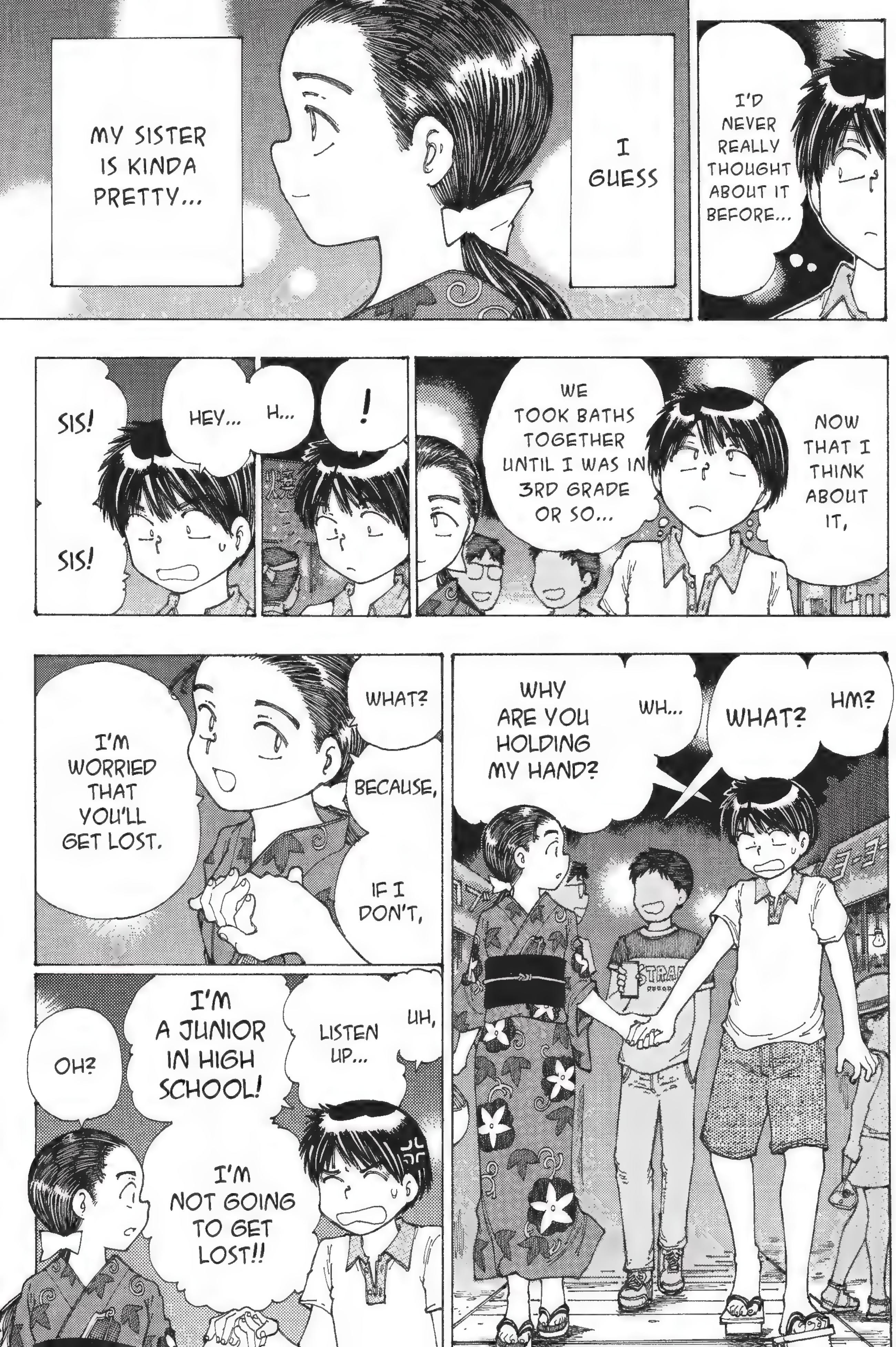

WE'RE BACK!
GRANDMA!
EXPO'70
WE GOT A GREAT HAUL!
OH HO, YOU CERTAINLY DID!
MAYBE I'LL FRY THEM UP FOR DINNER.
YEAH!
IT MUST HAVE BEEN HOT OUT THERE.
THERE'S WATERMELON IN THE FRIDGE.
WHY DON'T WE SLICE IT?
OKAY!
OH!
I'LL SLICE IT!!
EXPO'70
SIS...
STAYING AT GRANDMA'S HAS MADE HER ACT LIKE A KID AGAIN...
THUP
THUP
THUP

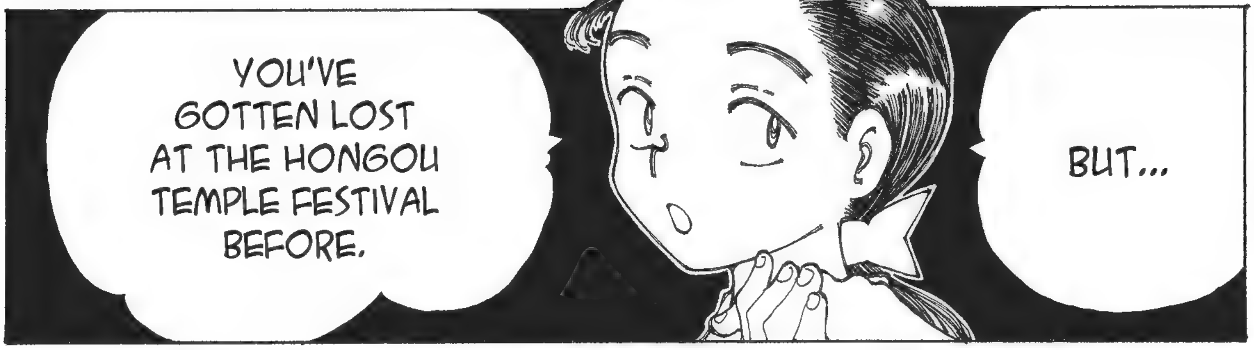

AKIRA!
COME ON,
WE'RE GOING!
WHA....
HAH
どっ
NO FREAKIN' WAY!
AH HA HA ...
COMEDY
DEA MATCH
SIS,
WHAT ARE YOU WEARING ?!
WE'RE GOING TO A FESTIVAL!
卍 HONGOU TERAMACHI
THERE'S A FESTIVAL ON THE HONGOU TEMPLE GROUNDS!
GO WITH ME! ♪
卍 HONGOU TERAMACHI

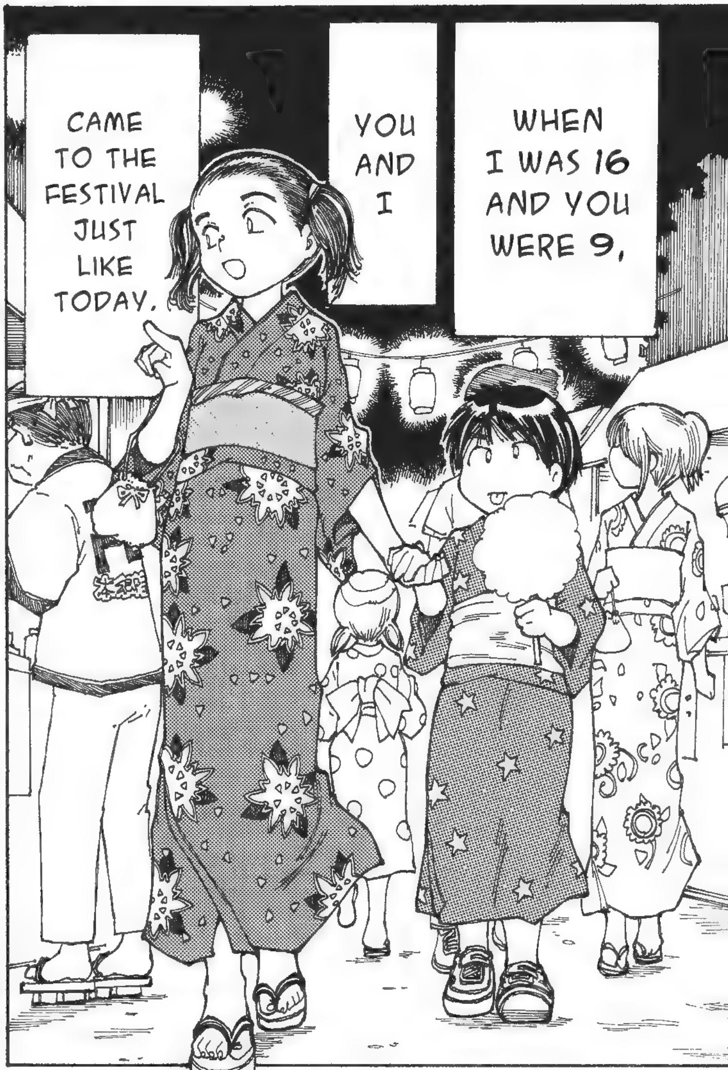

EHH...
I'LL PASS...
I'LL JUST STAY HERE AND WATCH TV...
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
WHEN YOU WERE LITTLE,
YOU WERE THE ONE DRAGGING ME TO FESTIVALS!
COME ON, LET'S GO!
祭 FESTIVAL
卍 HONGOU TERAMACHI
卍本郷
OCTOP
KLAK
カラン
KLOP
コロン
KLAK
カラン
CHAR-ACTER MASKS
GP

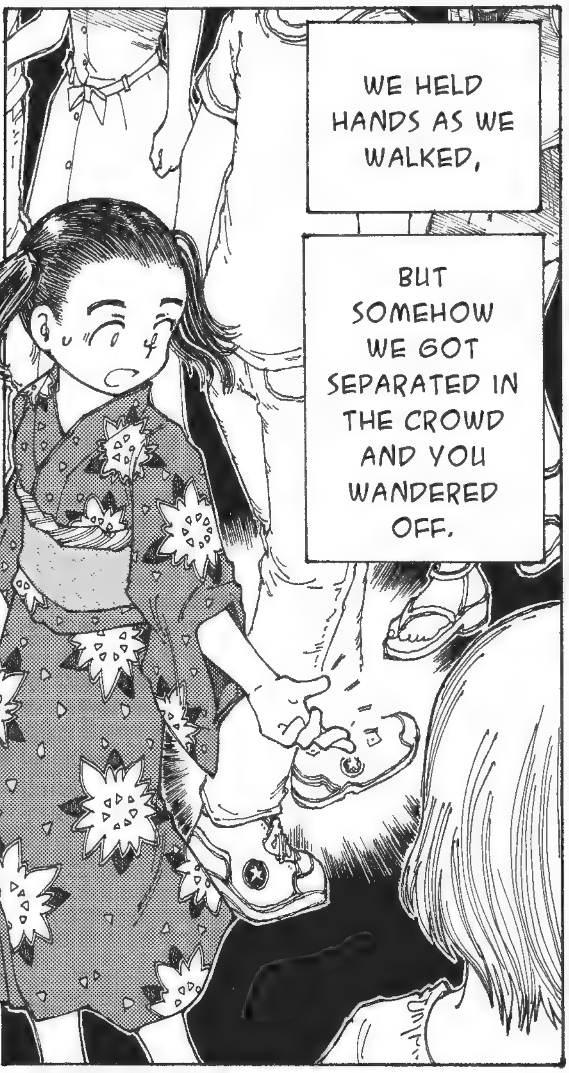

COTTON CANDY
SOFT SERV
OH!
THEY HAVE COTTON CANDY!
I WANT SOME! ♥
WANT ANY,
AKIRA?
HUH?
NO,
I'M GOOD.
EXCUSE ME!
ONE COTTON CANDY, PLEASE!
COMIN' UP!
COTTON CANDY
YOU SHOULD'VE GOTTEN ONE, TOO.
BUT COTTON CANDY MAKES MY MOUTH ALL STICKY.
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
YOU KNOW,
WHEN YOU WERE A KID, YOU ALWAYS GOT YOUR MOUTH STICKY CHOWING DOWN ON IT!
MNCH
HERE!
SINCE I BOUGHT IT, AT LEAST HAVE A BITE!

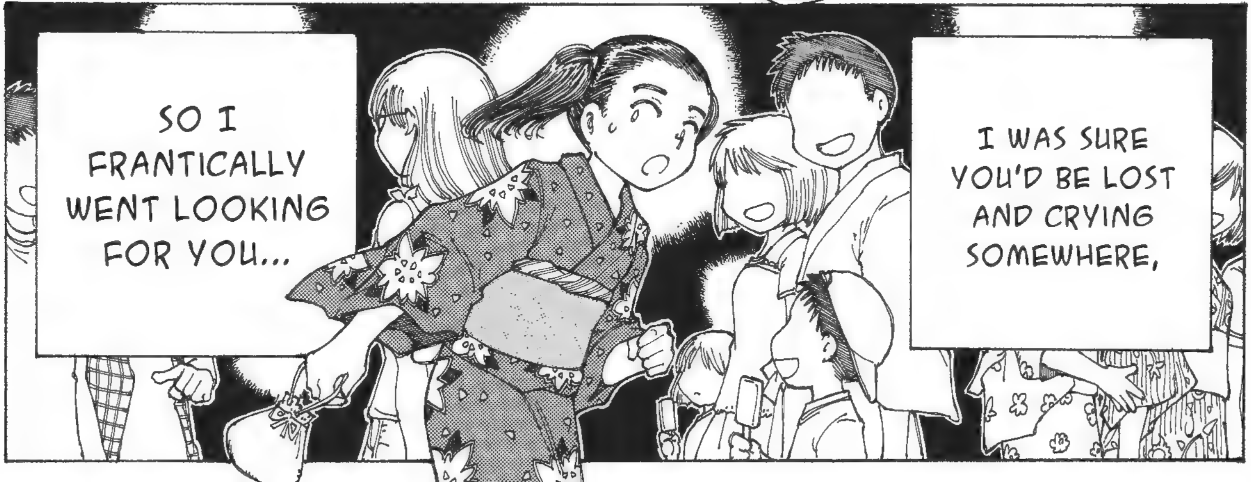

HMPH ...
MNCH
MM?
CREPE
LOCAL SPECIALTY !
HIROSHIMA OKONOMIYAKI
BLACK OUT
WHAT'S WITH THAT GUY?
IS HE LOOKING AT MY SISTER?
YAKISOBA
COME TO THINK OF IT,
FOR A WHILE NOW...
THERE'VE BEEN SEVERAL GUYS
STARING AT HER...
SHE DOESN'T KNOW ANY OF THEM, DOES SHE?
HONGOU TERAMACHI
BRISCOES

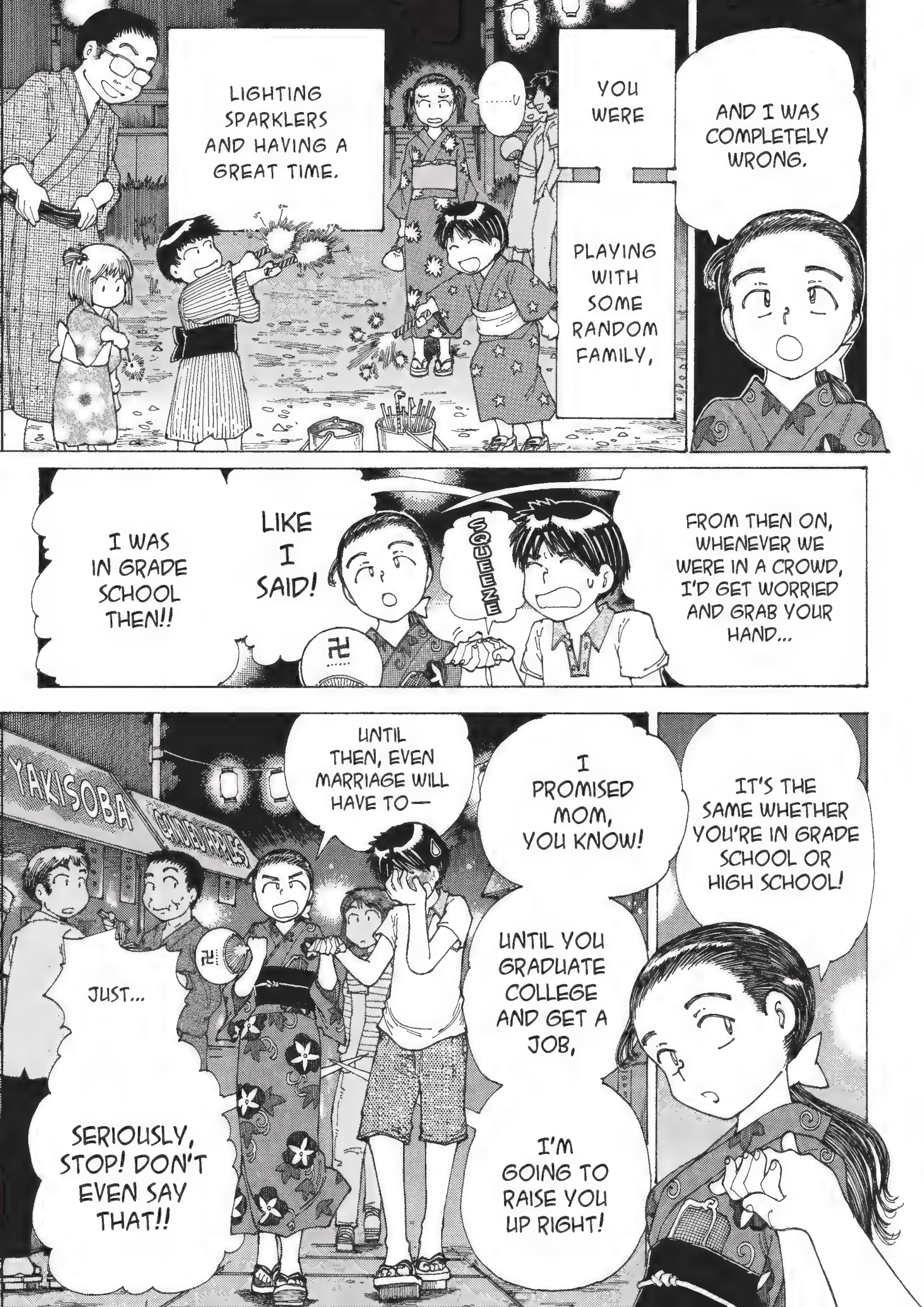

I'D NEVER REALLY THOUGHT ABOUT IT BEFORE...
MY SISTER IS KINDA PRETTY...
I GUESS
NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT,
WE TOOK BATHS TOGETHER UNTIL I WAS IN 3RD GRADE OR SO...
!
H...
HEY...
SIS!
SIS!
HM?
WHAT?
WH...
WHY ARE YOU HOLDING MY HAND?
WHAT?
BECAUSE,
IF I DON'T,
I'M WORRIED THAT YOU'LL GET LOST.
UH,
LISTEN UP...
I'M A JUNIOR IN HIGH SCHOOL!
I'M NOT GOING TO GET LOST!!
OH?

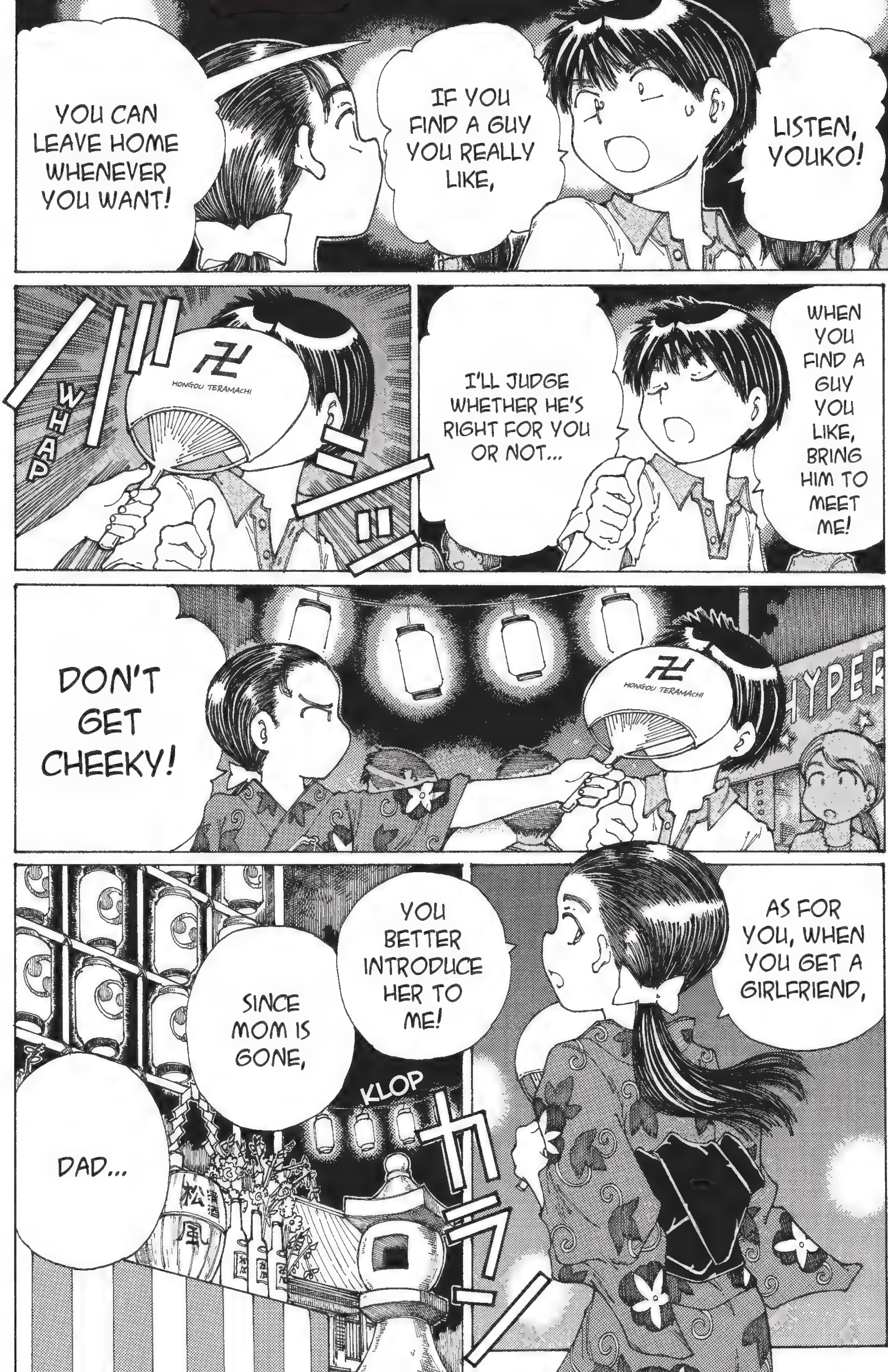

BUT...
YOU'VE GOTTEN LOST AT THE HONGOU TEMPLE FESTIVAL BEFORE.

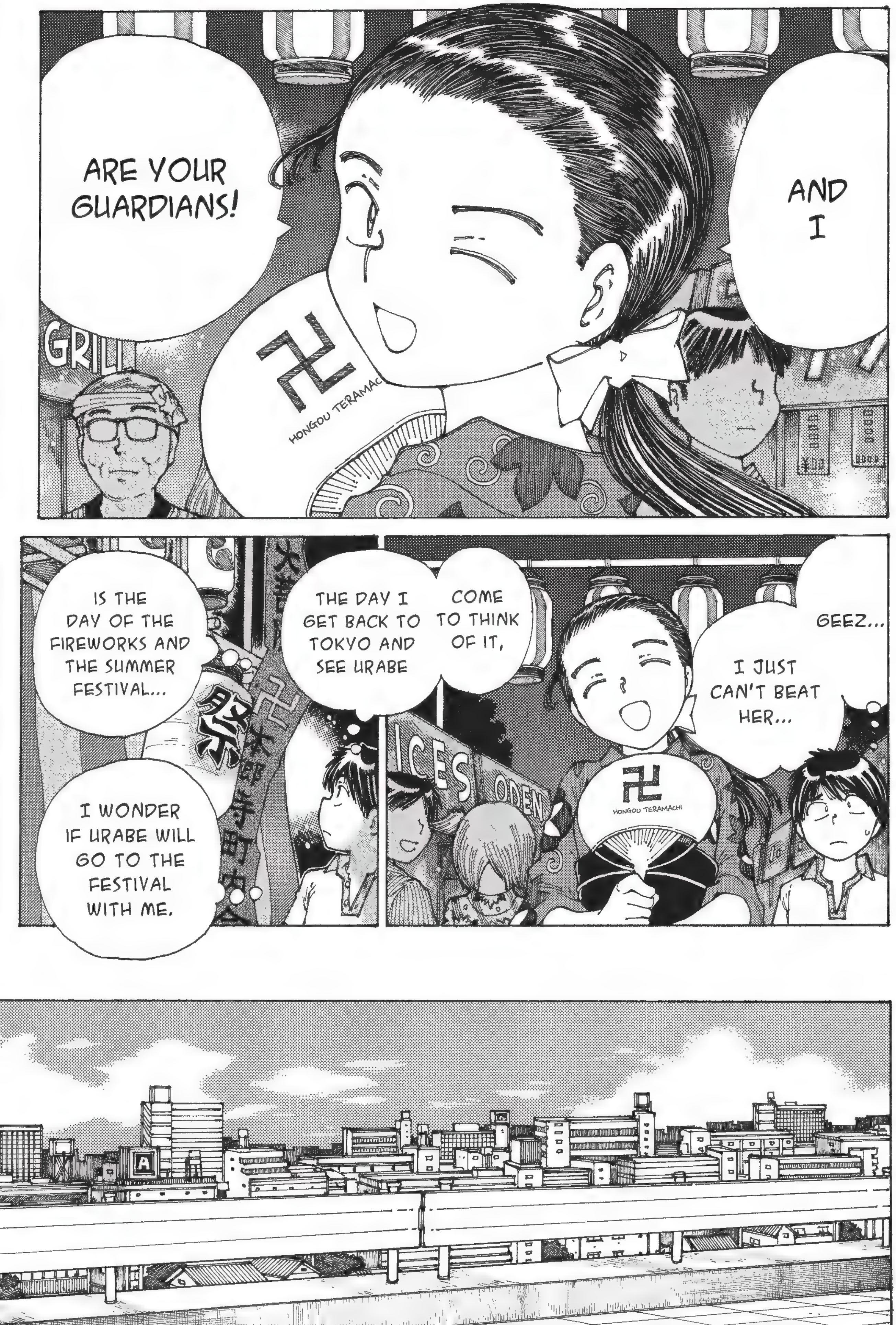

WHEN I WAS 16 AND YOU WERE 9,
YOU AND I
CAME TO THE FESTIVAL JUST LIKE TODAY.

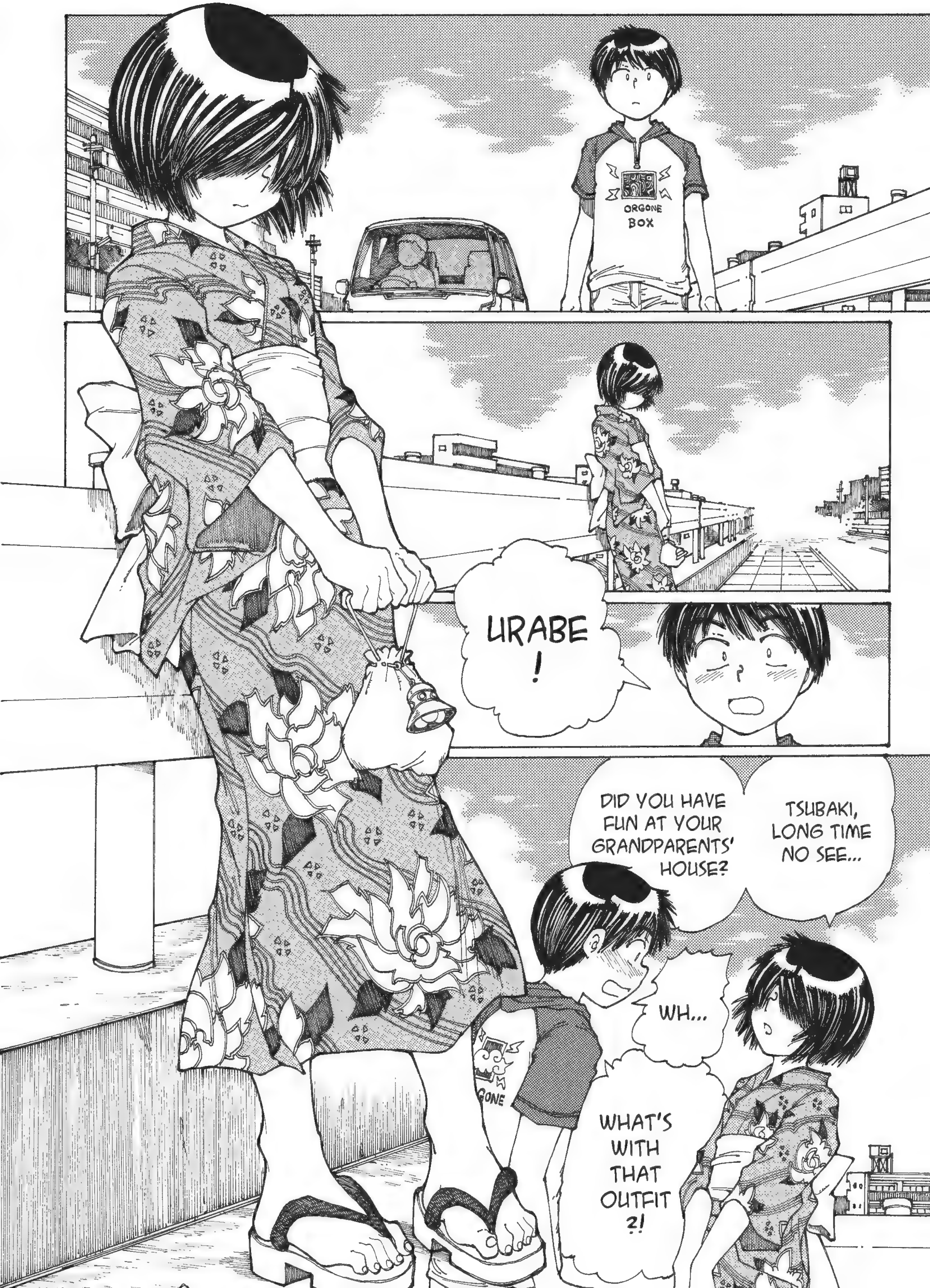

WE HELD HANDS AS WE WALKED,
BUT SOMEHOW WE GOT SEPARATED IN THE CROWD AND YOU WANDERED OFF.

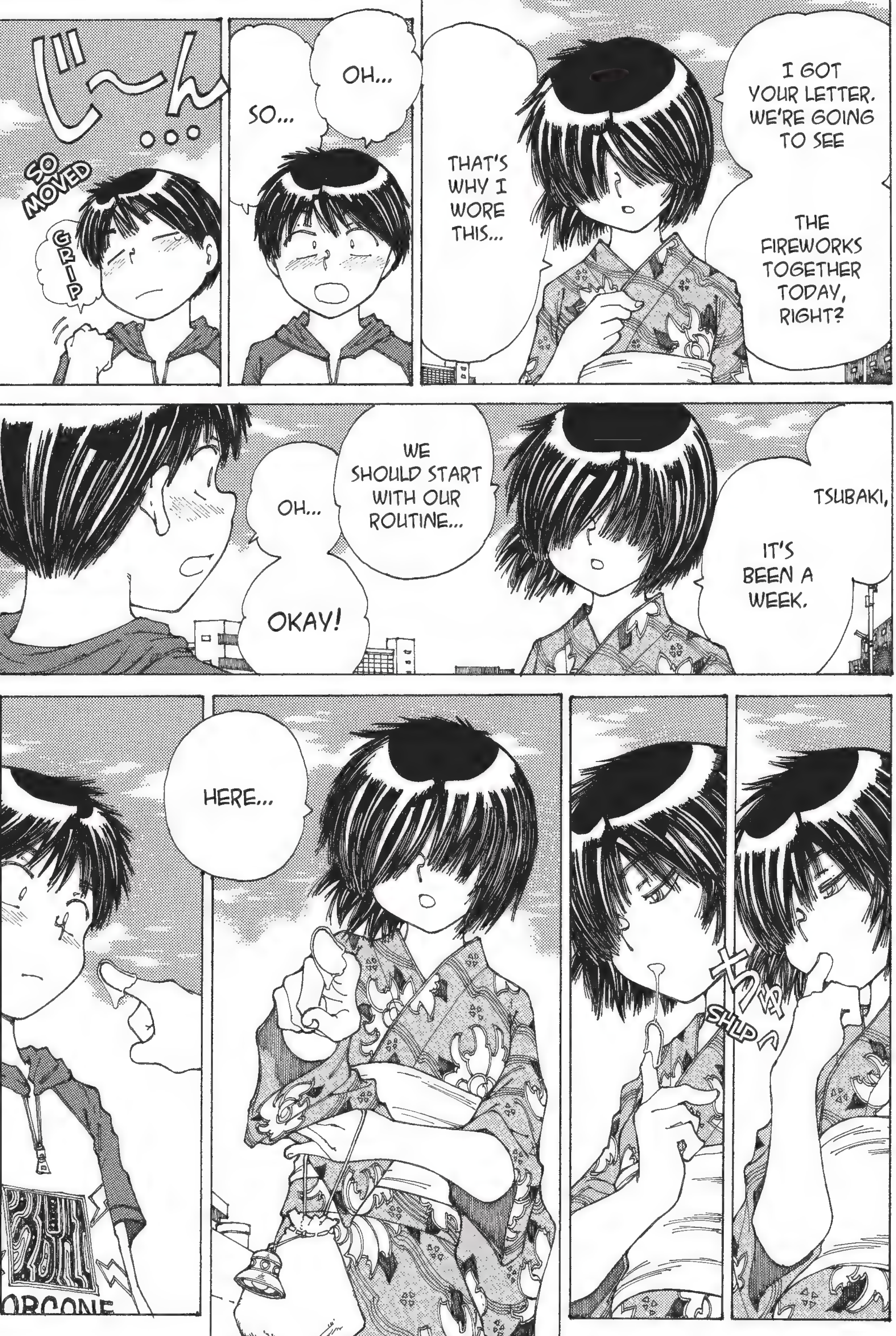

I WAS SURE YOU'D BE LOST AND CRYING SOMEWHERE,
SO I FRANTICALLY WENT LOOKING FOR YOU...

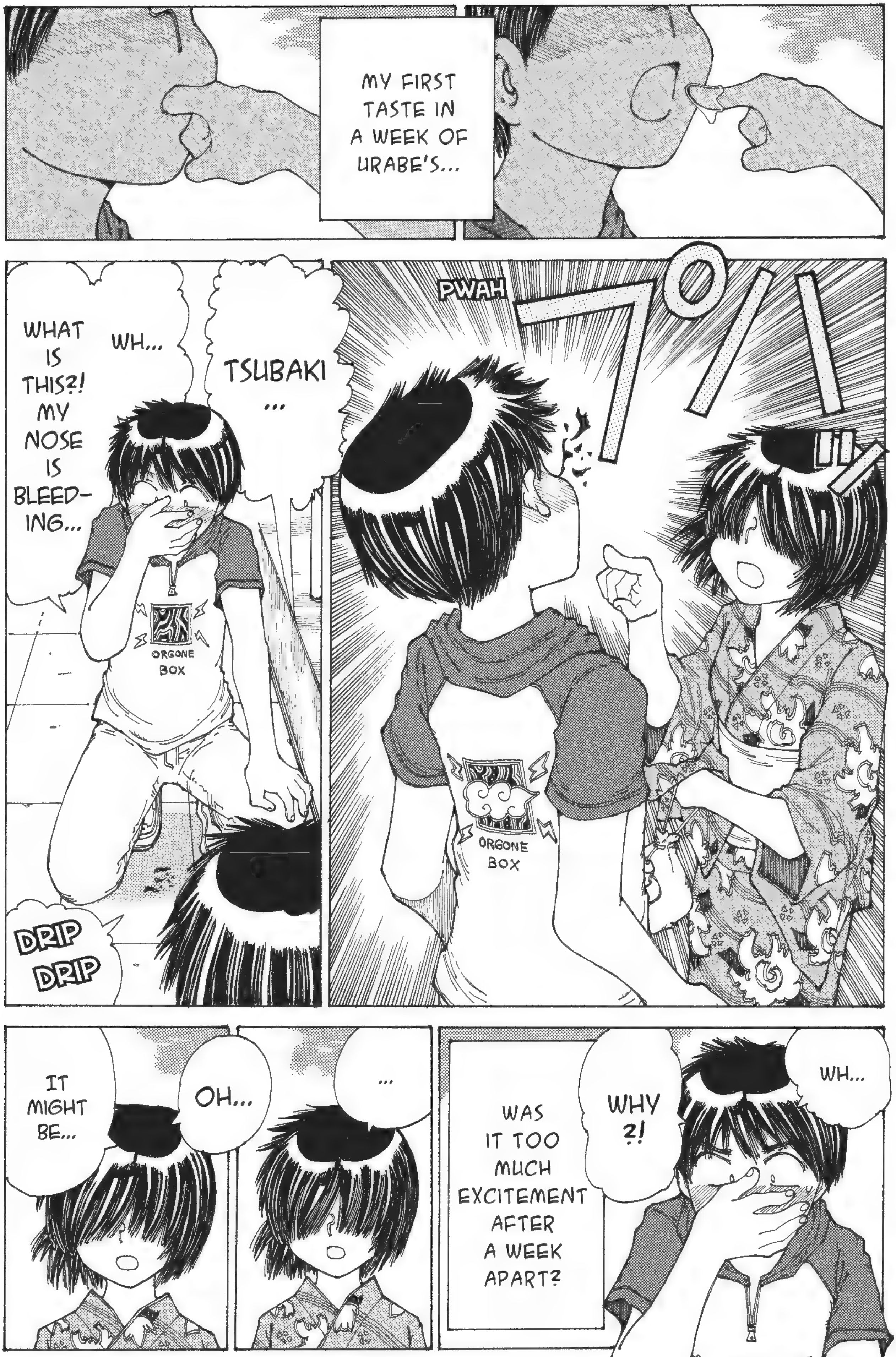

AND I WAS COMPLETELY WRONG.
YOU WERE
PLAYING WITH SOME RANDOM FAMILY,
LIGHTING SPARKLERS AND HAVING A GREAT TIME.
……
FROM THEN ON, WHENEVER WE WERE IN A CROWD, I'D GET WORRIED AND GRAB YOUR HAND...
SQUEEZE
LIKE I SAID!
I WAS IN GRADE SCHOOL THEN!!
卍
IT'S THE SAME WHETHER YOU'RE IN GRADE SCHOOL OR HIGH SCHOOL!
I PROMISED MOM, YOU KNOW!
UNTIL YOU GRADUATE COLLEGE AND GET A JOB,
I'M GOING TO RAISE YOU UP RIGHT!
UNTIL THEN, EVEN MARRIAGE WILL HAVE TO—
JUST...
SERIOUSLY, STOP! DON'T EVEN SAY THAT!!
YAKISOBA
CANDIED APPLES
卍

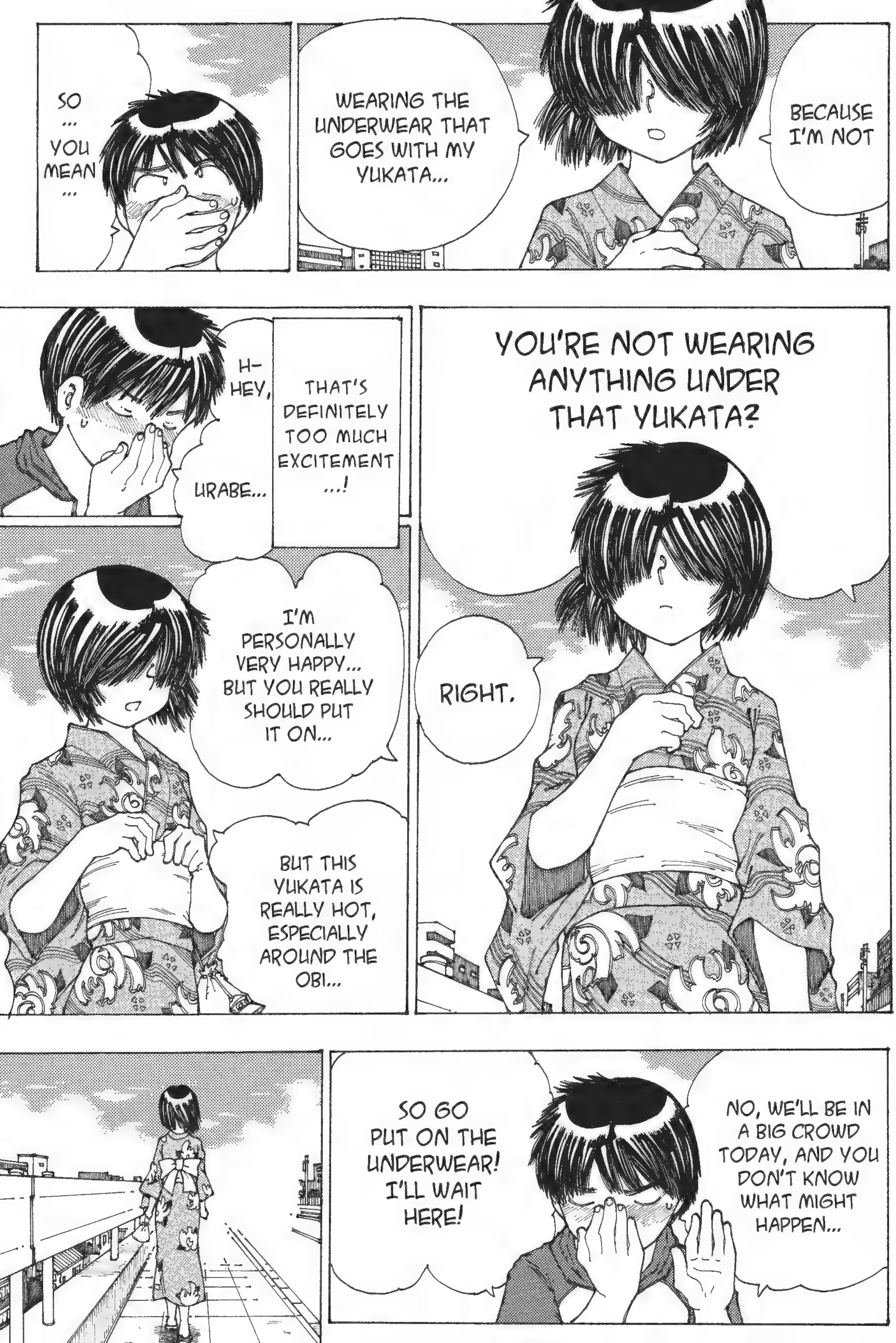

LISTEN, YOUKO!
IF YOU FIND A GUY YOU REALLY LIKE,
YOU CAN LEAVE HOME WHENEVER YOU WANT!
WHEN YOU FIND A GUY YOU LIKE, BRING HIM TO MEET ME!
I'LL JUDGE WHETHER HE'S RIGHT FOR YOU OR NOT...
HONGOU TERAMACHI
WHAP
DON'T GET CHEEKY!
HONGOU TERAMACHI
HYPER
AS FOR YOU, WHEN YOU GET A GIRLFRIEND,
YOU BETTER INTRODUCE HER TO ME!
SINCE MOM IS GONE,
DAD...
KLOP

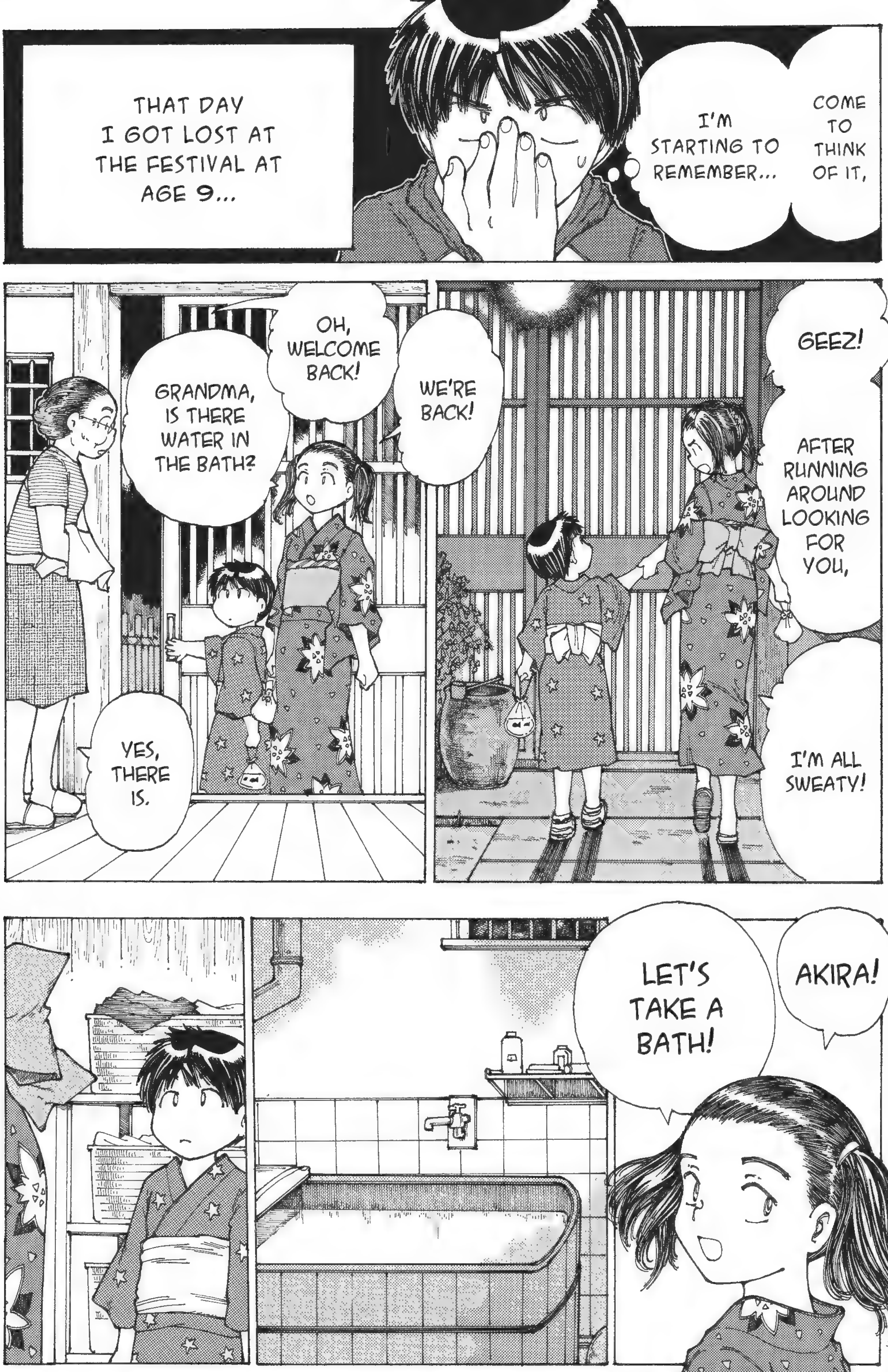

AND I
ARE YOUR GUARDIANS!
GRILL
HONGOU TERAMACHI
GEEZ...
I JUST CAN'T BEAT HER...
COME TO THINK OF IT,
THE DAY I GET BACK TO TOKYO AND SEE URABE
IS THE DAY OF THE FIREWORKS AND THE SUMMER FESTIVAL...
I WONDER IF URABE WILL GO TO THE FESTIVAL WITH ME.
HONGOU TERAMACHI
ICES
ODEN
祭


ORGONE BOX
URABE !
TSUBAKI, LONG TIME NO SEE...
DID YOU HAVE FUN AT YOUR GRANDPARENTS' HOUSE?
WH...
WHAT'S WITH THAT OUTFIT ?!
GONE

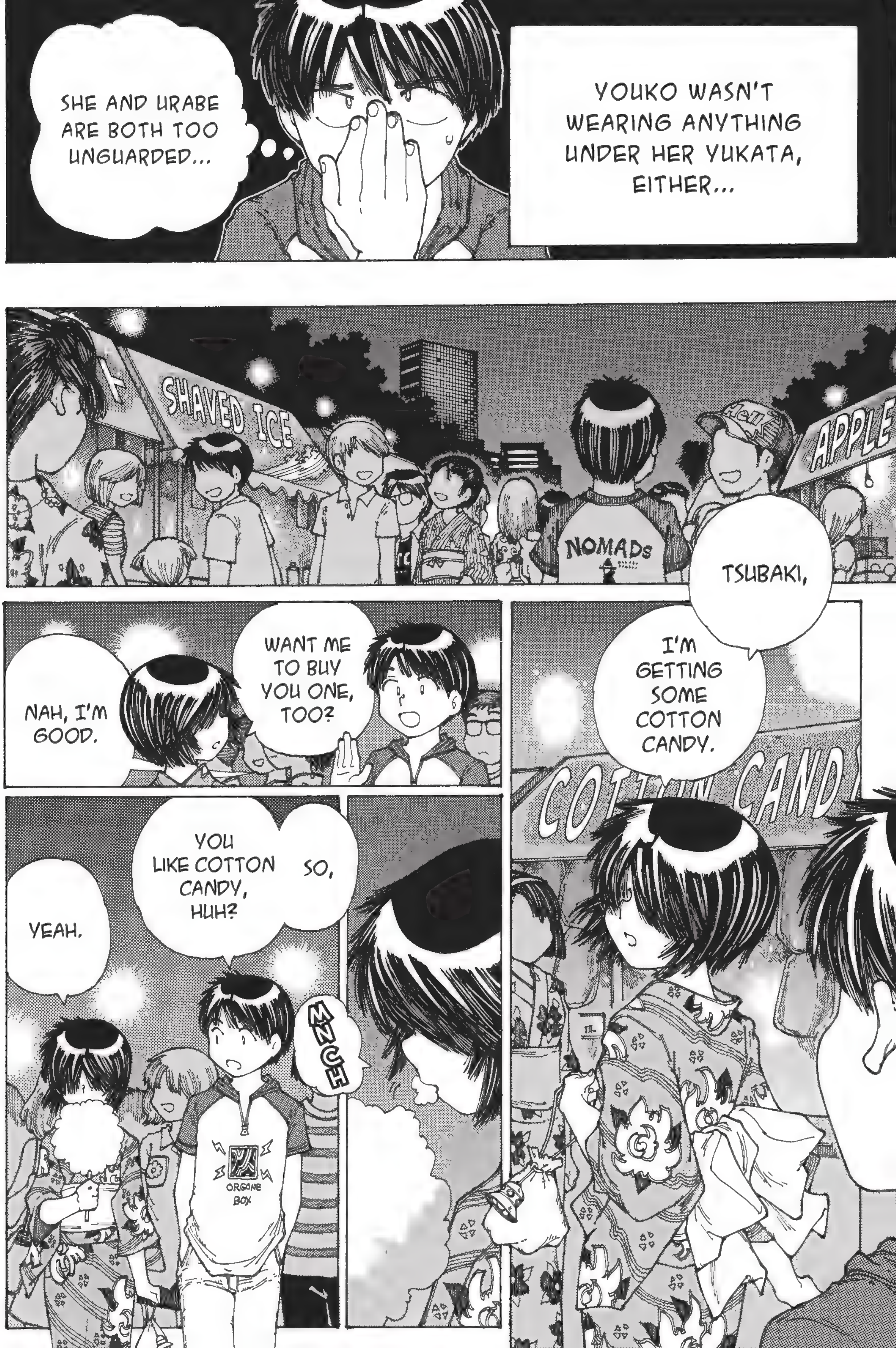

I GOT YOUR LETTER. WE'RE GOING TO SEE THE FIREWORKS TOGETHER TODAY, RIGHT?
THAT'S WHY I WORE THIS...
OH...
SO...
じ〜ん…
SO MOVED
GRIP
TSUBAKI, IT'S BEEN A WEEK.
WE SHOULD START WITH OUR ROUTINE...
OH... OKAY!
ちゅ
SHLP
HERE...
ORCONE

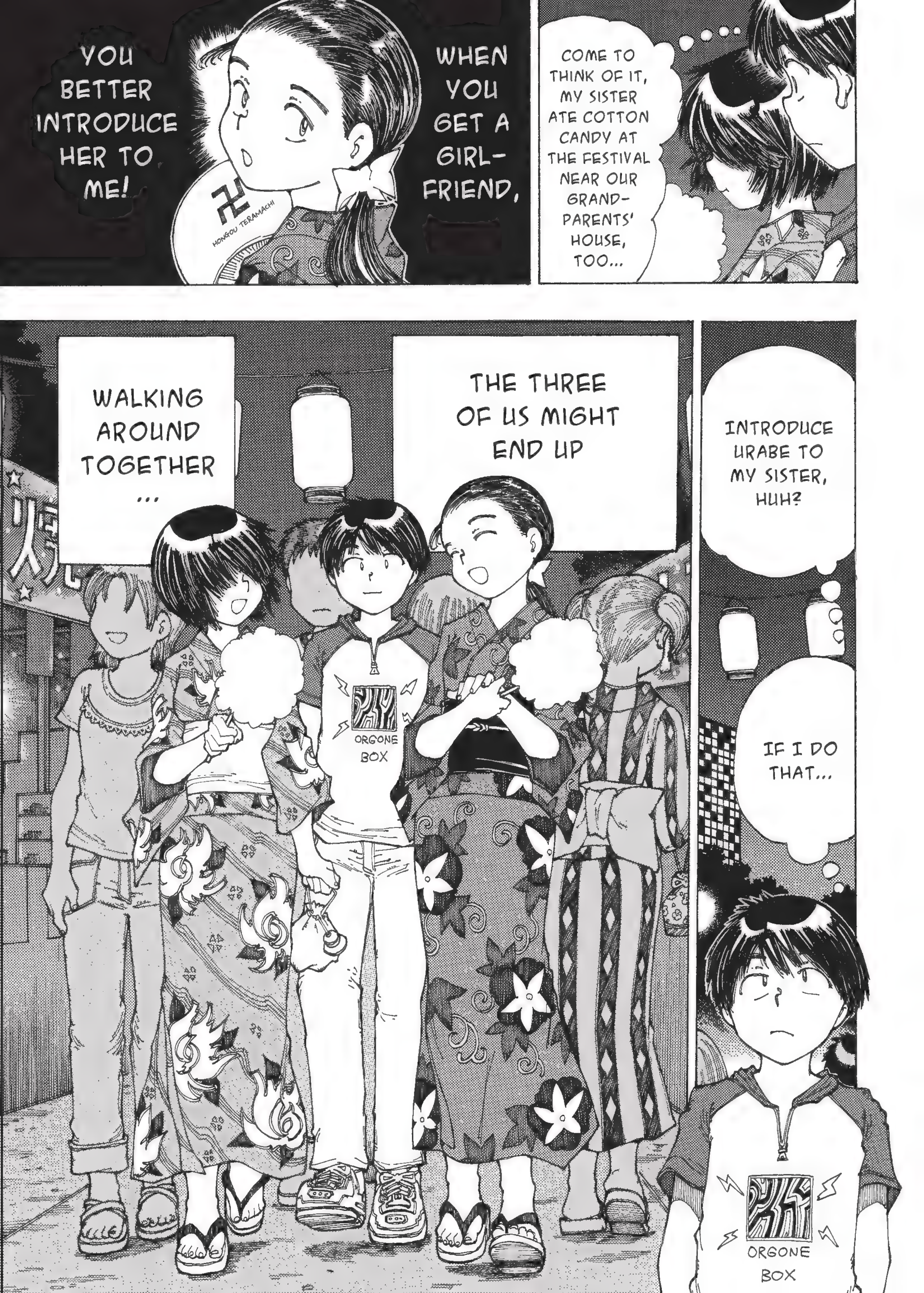

MY FIRST TASTE IN A WEEK OF URABE'S...
PWAH
プハッ
TSUBAKI...
WH...
WHAT IS THIS?! MY NOSE IS BLEEDING...
DRIP DRIP
WH...
WHY?!
WAS IT TOO MUCH EXCITEMENT AFTER A WEEK APART?
...
OH...
IT MIGHT BE...

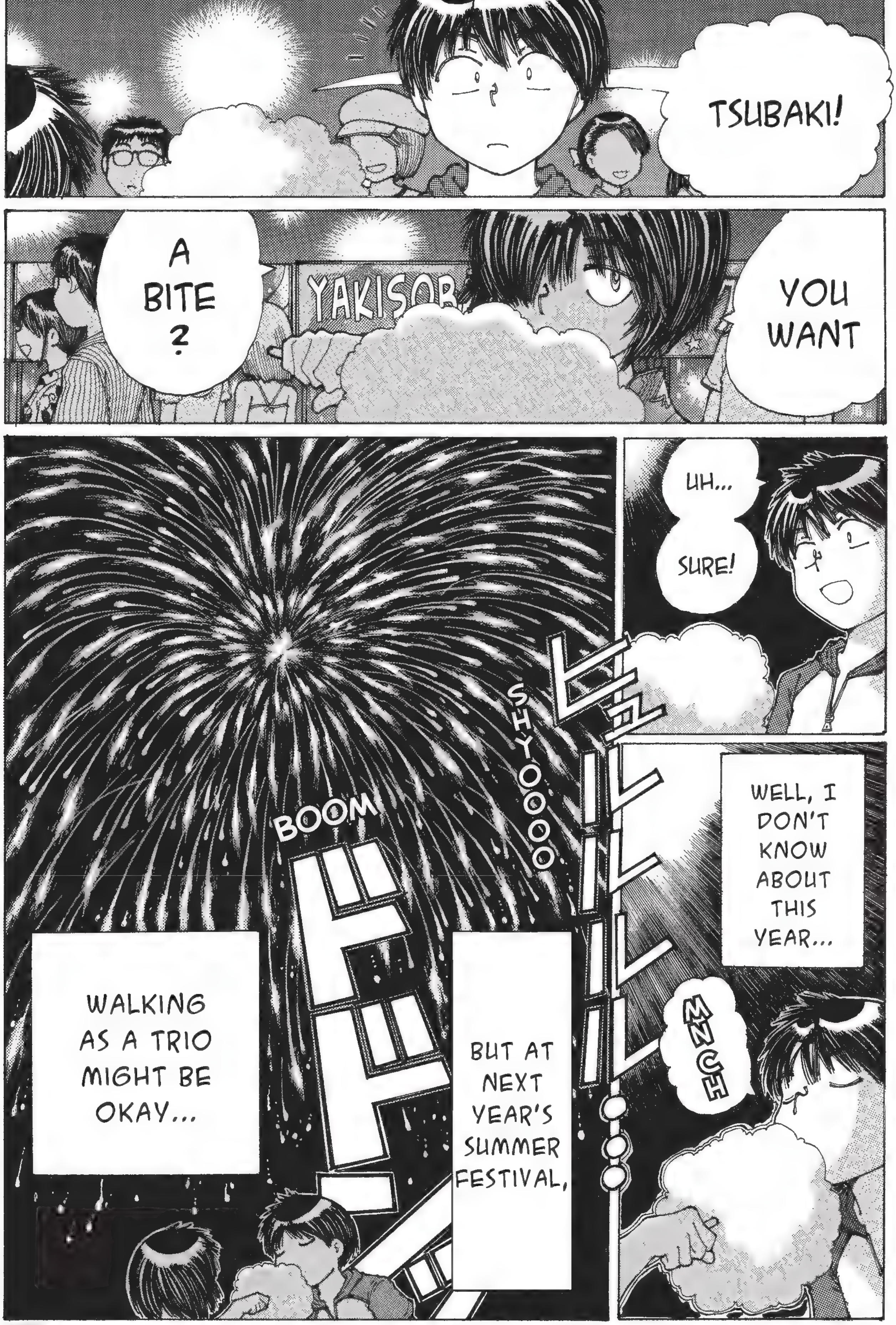

BECAUSE I'M NOT
WEARING THE UNDERWEAR THAT GOES WITH MY YUKATA...
SO ... YOU MEAN ...
YOU'RE NOT WEARING ANYTHING UNDER THAT YUKATA?
RIGHT.
H-HEY, URABE...
THAT'S DEFINITELY TOO MUCH EXCITEMENT ...!
I'M PERSONALLY VERY HAPPY... BUT YOU REALLY SHOULD PUT IT ON...
BUT THIS YUKATA IS REALLY HOT, ESPECIALLY AROUND THE OBI...
NO, WE'LL BE IN A BIG CROWD TODAY, AND YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT MIGHT HAPPEN...
SO GO PUT ON THE UNDERWEAR! I'LL WAIT HERE!


COME TO THINK OF IT,
I'M STARTING TO REMEMBER...
THAT DAY I GOT LOST AT THE FESTIVAL AT AGE 9...
GEEZ!
AFTER RUNNING AROUND LOOKING FOR YOU,
I'M ALL SWEATY!
WE'RE BACK!
OH, WELCOME BACK!
GRANDMA, IS THERE WATER IN THE BATH?
YES, THERE IS.
AKIRA!
LET'S TAKE A BATH!

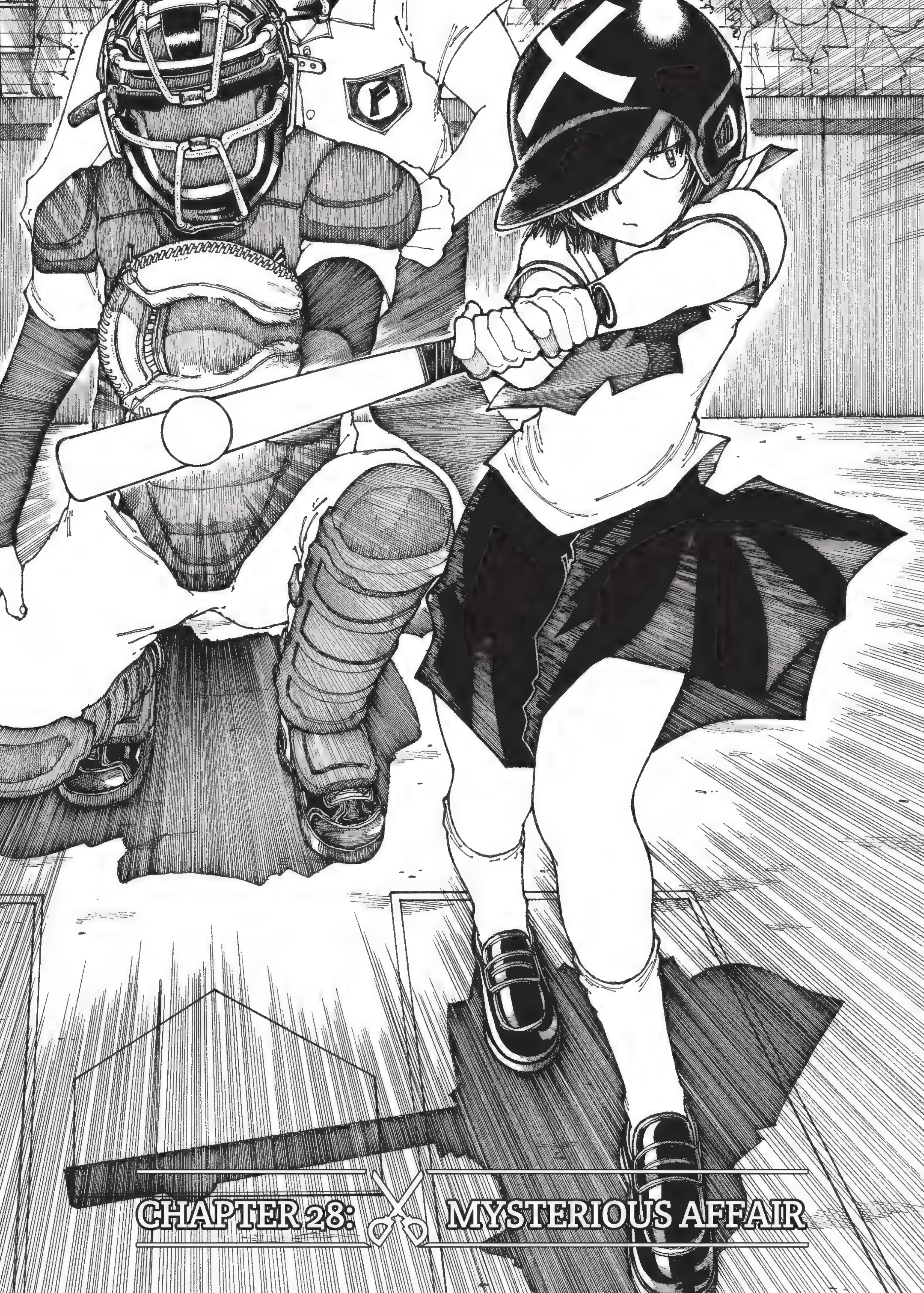
パチッ
SNAP
サッ
SWISH
ファ
シュル…
SLIP...


YOUKO WASN'T WEARING ANYTHING UNDER HER YUKATA, EITHER...
SHE AND URABE ARE BOTH TOO UNGUARDED...
APPLE
SHAVED ICE
NOMADs
TSUBAKI,
I'M GETTING SOME COTTON CANDY.
COTTON CANDY
WANT ME TO BUY YOU ONE, TOO?
NAH, I'M GOOD.
MNCH
SO,
YOU LIKE COTTON CANDY, HUH?
YEAH.
ORGONE BOX

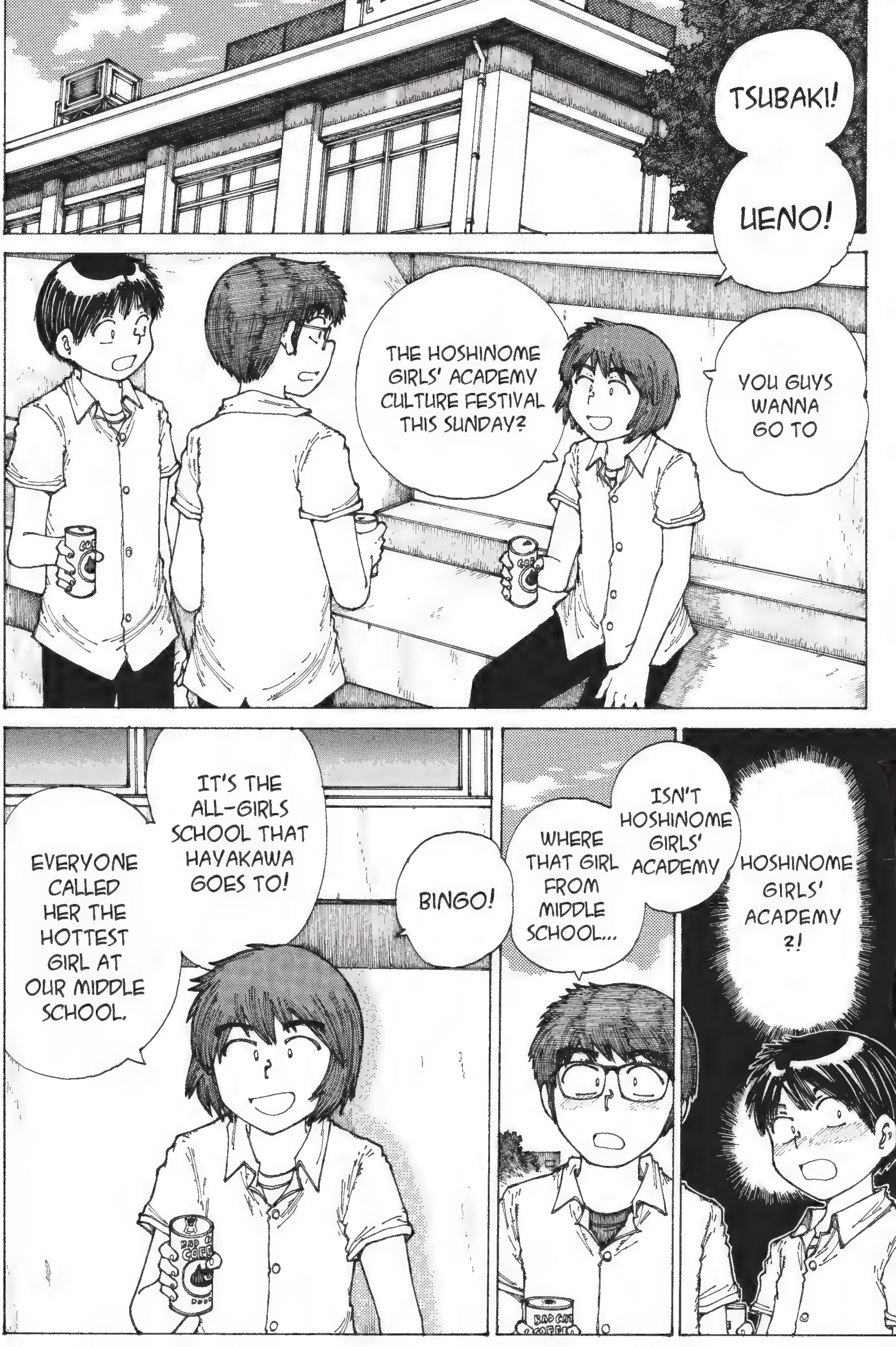

COME TO THINK OF IT, MY SISTER ATE COTTON CANDY AT THE FESTIVAL NEAR OUR GRANDPARENTS' HOUSE, TOO...
WHEN YOU GET A GIRLFRIEND,
YOU BETTER INTRODUCE HER TO ME!
HONGOU TERAMACHI
INTRODUCE URABE TO MY SISTER, HUH?
IF I DO THAT...
THE THREE OF US MIGHT END UP
WALKING AROUND TOGETHER...
ORGONE BOX
ORGONE BOX

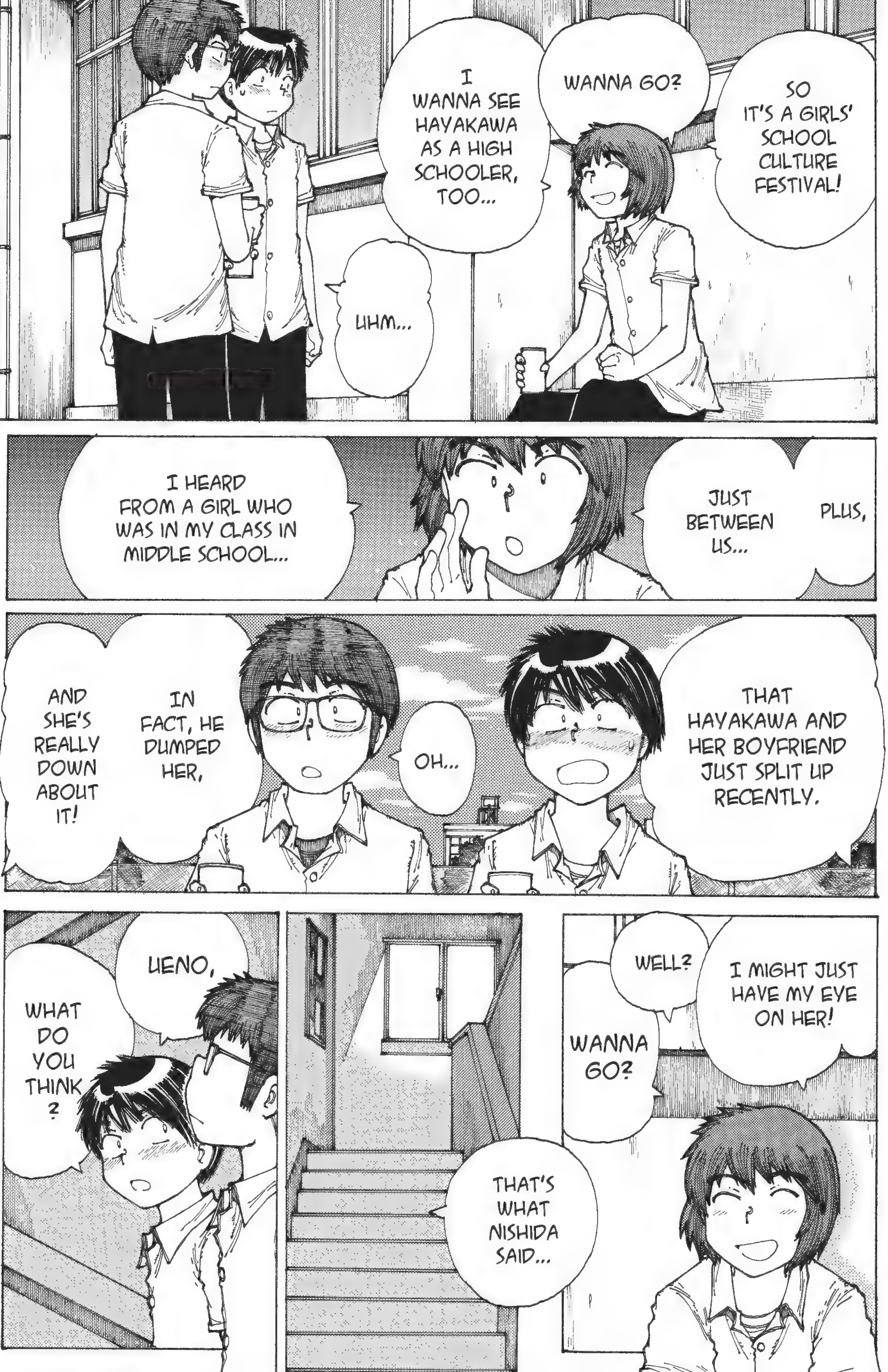

TSUBAKI!
YOU WANT
A BITE?
UH...
SURE!
SHYOOOO
WELL, I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THIS YEAR...
MNCH
BUT AT NEXT YEAR'S SUMMER FESTIVAL,
BOOM
WALKING AS A TRIO MIGHT BE OKAY...

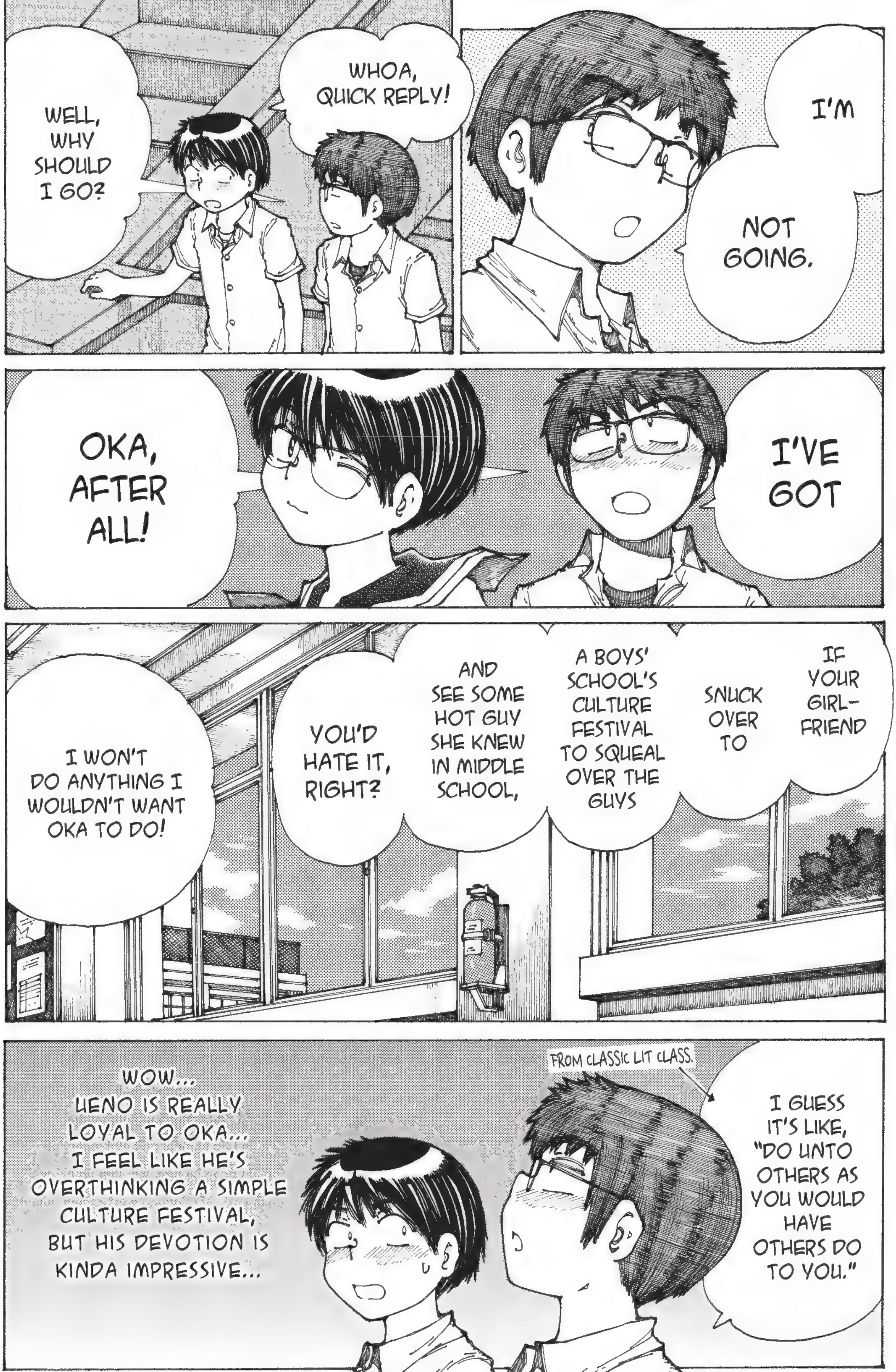
END OF CHAPTER 27

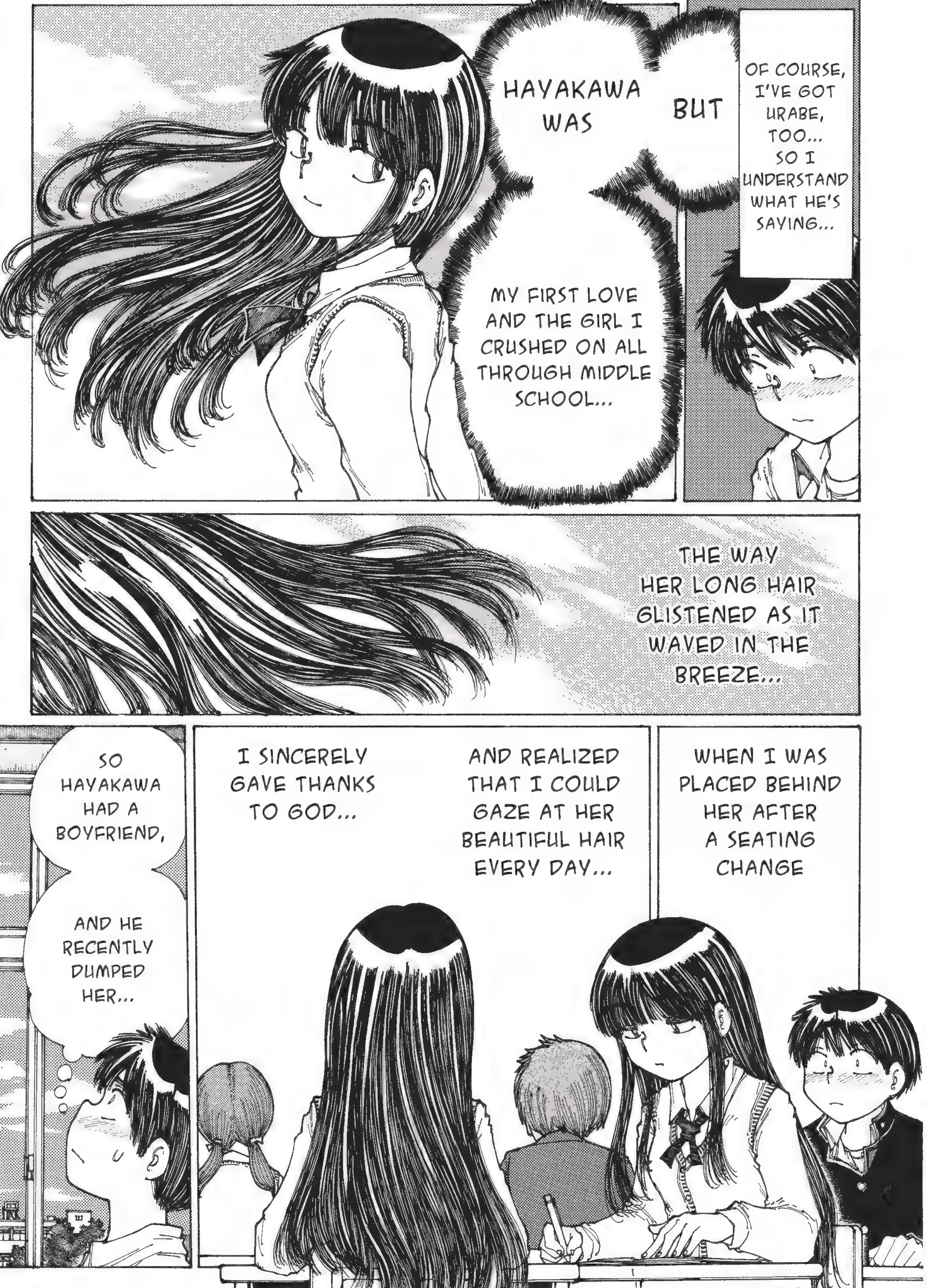


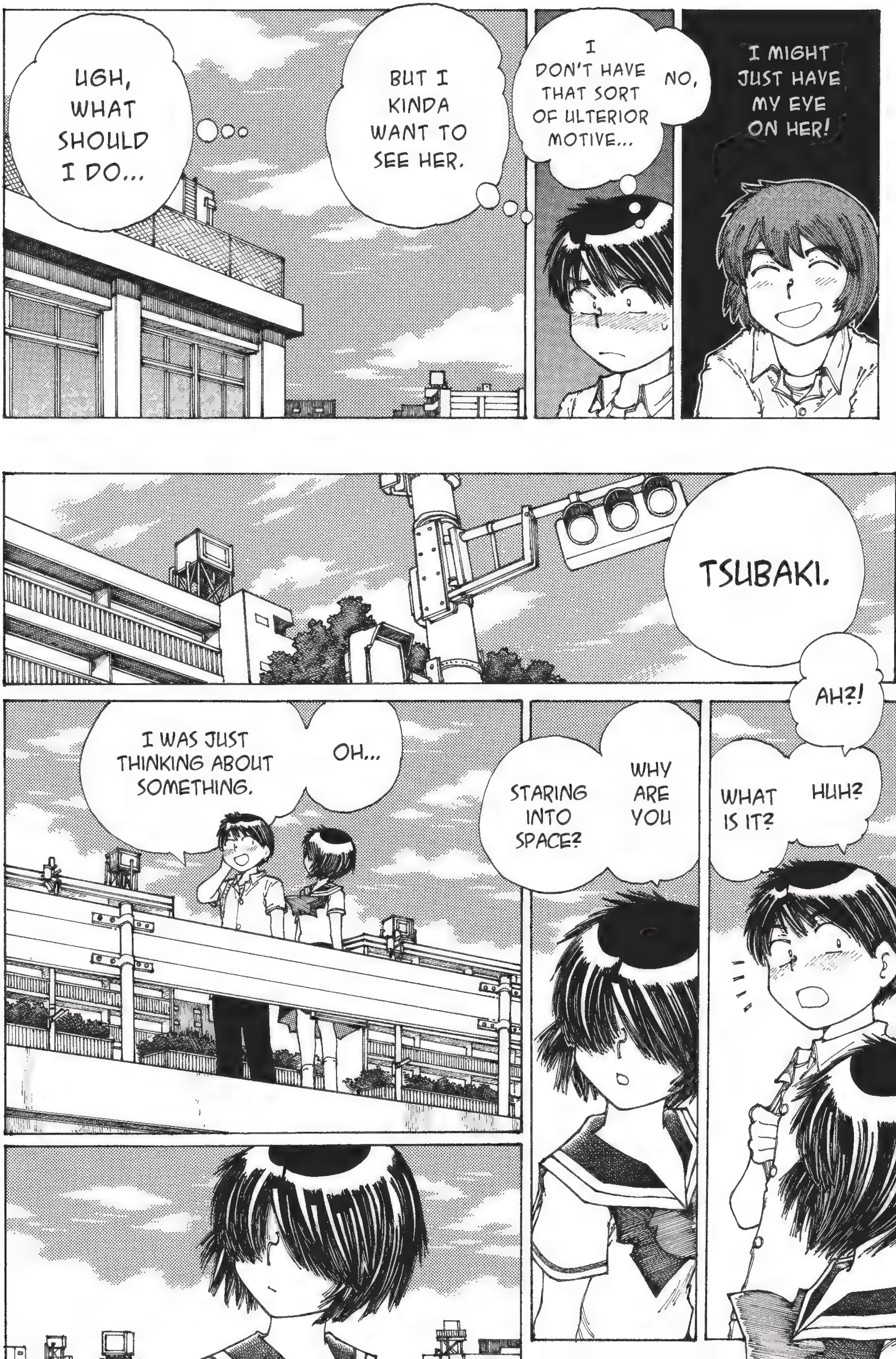
CHAPTER 28: MYSTERIOUS AFFAIR

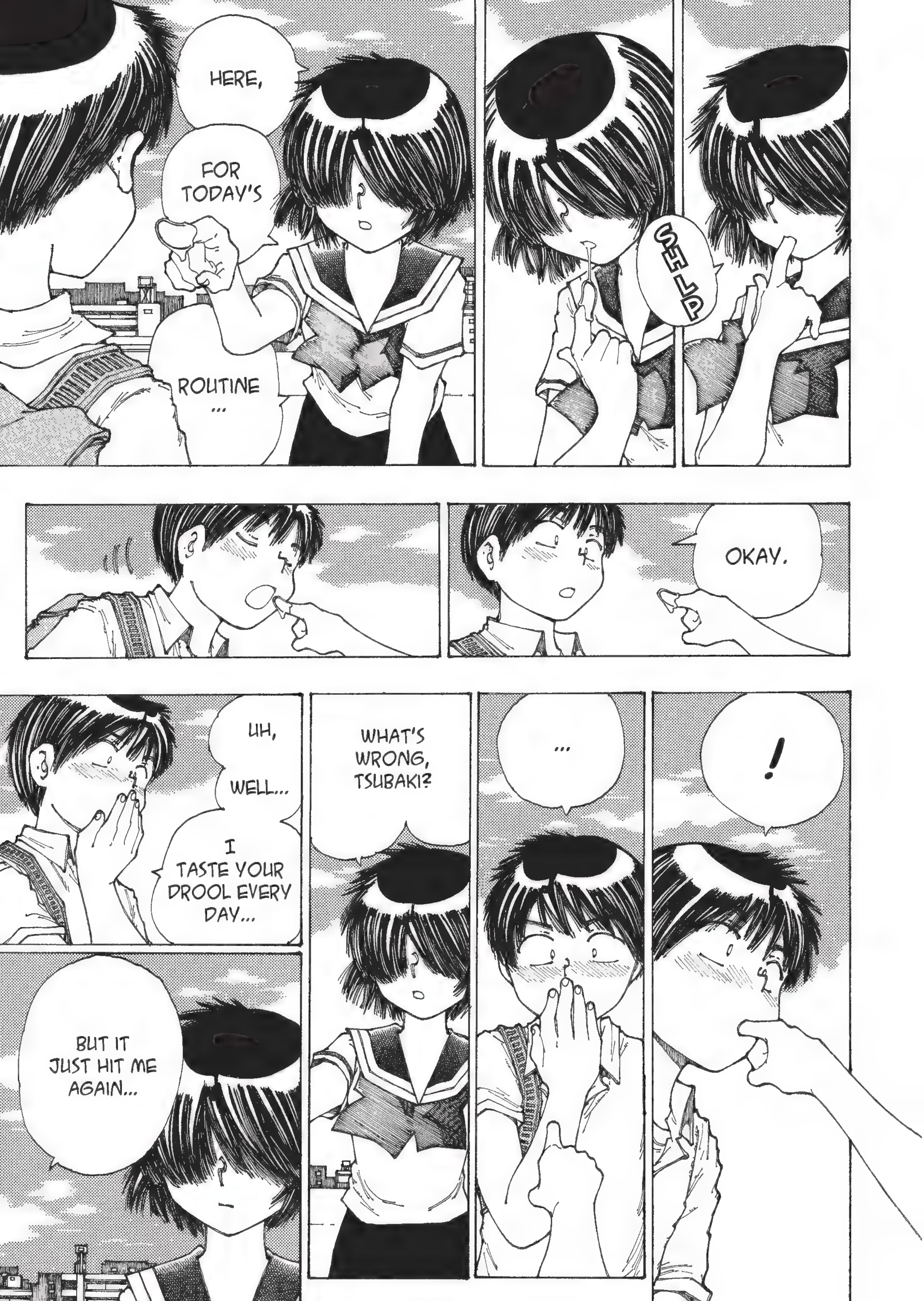

TSUBAKI!
UENO!
YOU GUYS WANNA GO TO
THE HOSHINOME GIRLS' ACADEMY CULTURE FESTIVAL THIS SUNDAY?
HOSHINOME GIRLS' ACADEMY ?!
ISN'T HOSHINOME GIRLS' ACADEMY
WHERE THAT GIRL FROM MIDDLE SCHOOL...
BINGO!
IT'S THE ALL-GIRLS SCHOOL THAT HAYAKAWA GOES TO!
EVERYONE CALLED HER THE HOTTEST GIRL AT OUR MIDDLE SCHOOL.

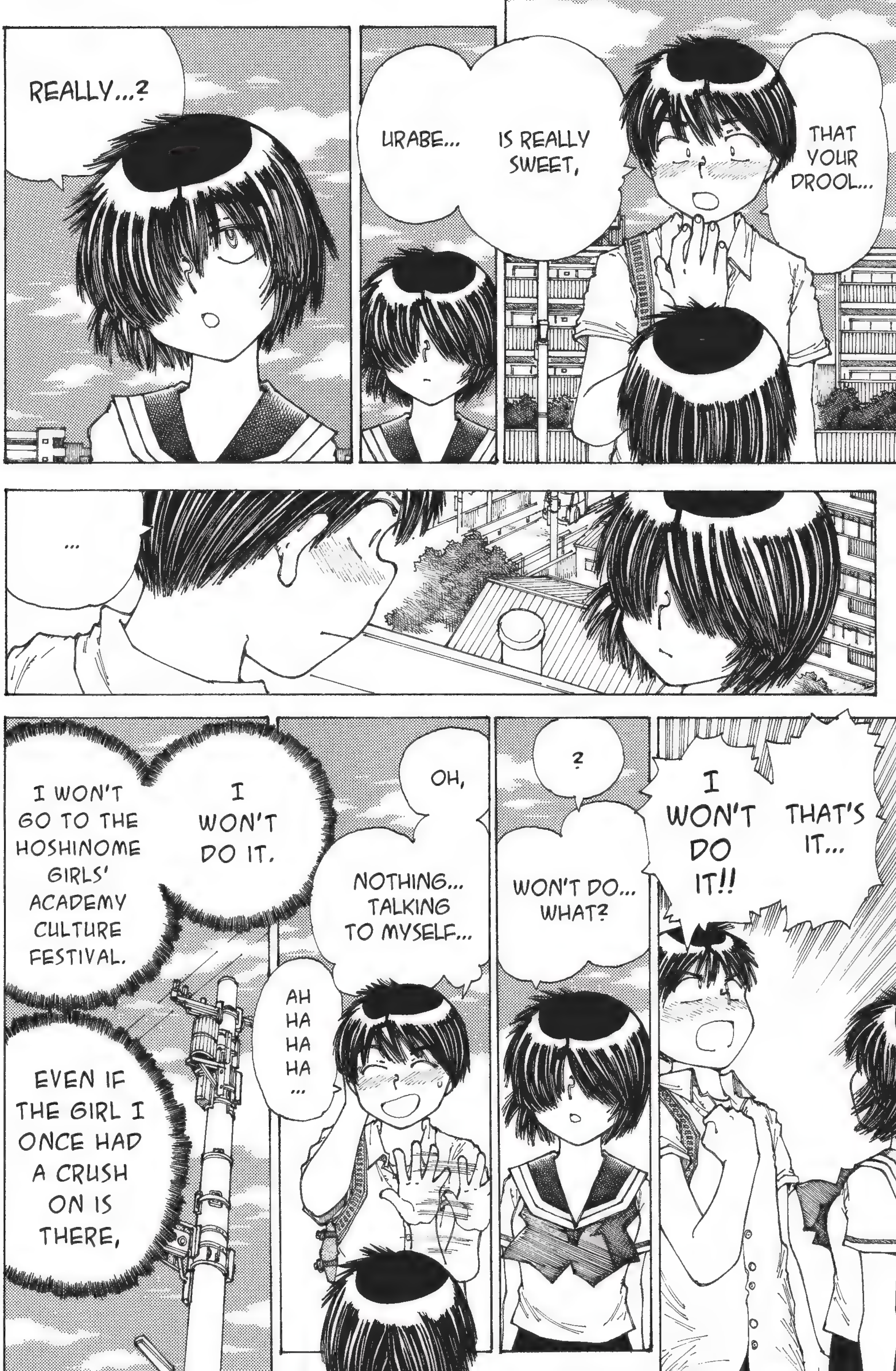

SO IT'S A GIRLS' SCHOOL CULTURE FESTIVAL!
WANNA GO?
I WANNA SEE HAYAKAWA AS A HIGH SCHOOLER, TOO...
UHM...
PLUS,
JUST BETWEEN US...
I HEARD FROM A GIRL WHO WAS IN MY CLASS IN MIDDLE SCHOOL...
THAT HAYAKAWA AND HER BOYFRIEND JUST SPLIT UP RECENTLY.
OH...
IN FACT, HE DUMPED HER,
AND SHE'S REALLY DOWN ABOUT IT!
I MIGHT JUST HAVE MY EYE ON HER!
WELL?
WANNA GO?
THAT'S WHAT NISHIDA SAID...
UENO,
WHAT DO YOU THINK?

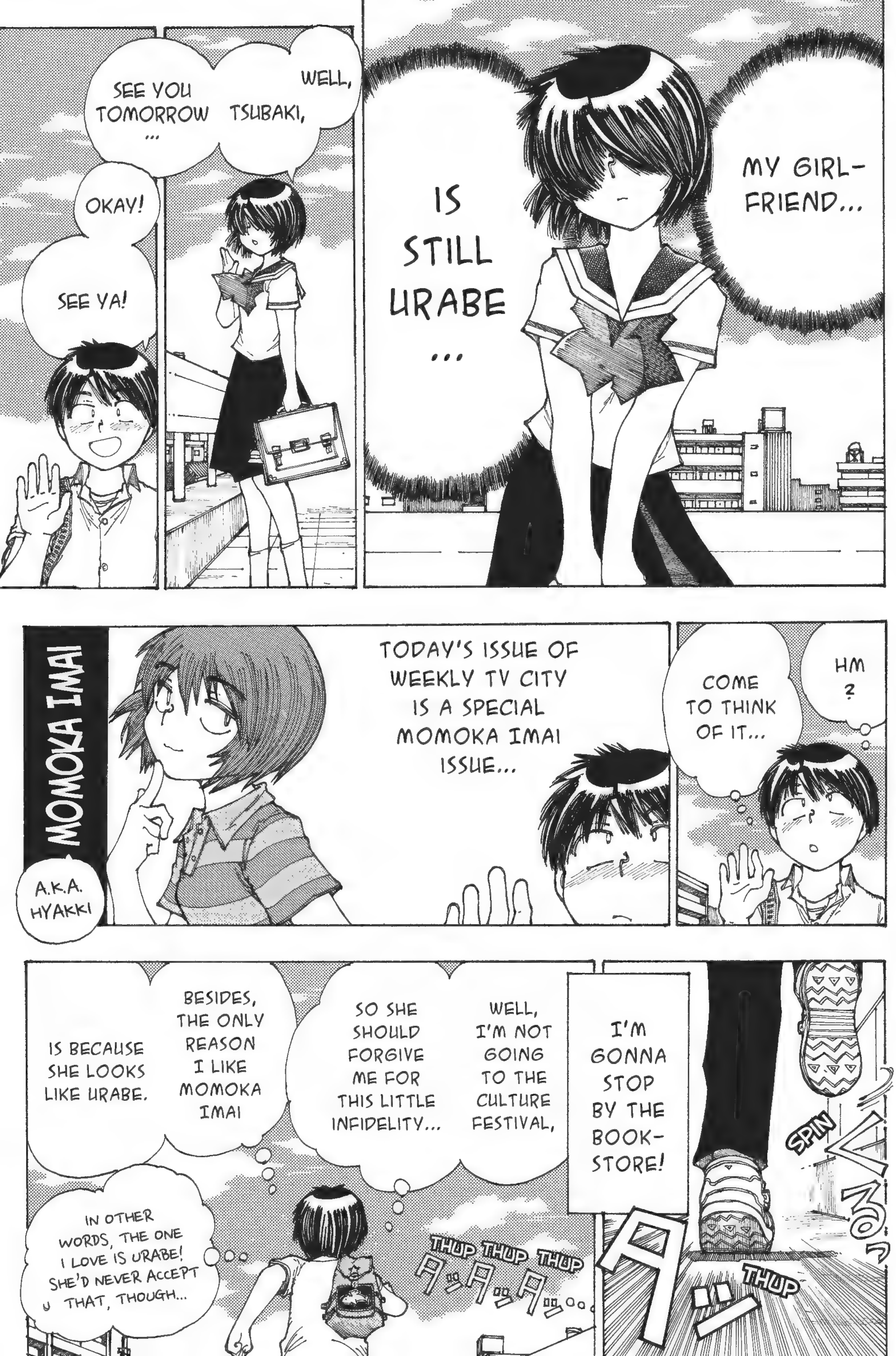

I'M NOT GOING.
WHOA, QUICK REPLY!
WELL, WHY SHOULD I GO?
I'VE GOT
OKA, AFTER ALL!
IF YOUR GIRLFRIEND
SNUCK OVER TO
A BOYS' SCHOOL'S CULTURE FESTIVAL TO SQUEAL OVER THE GUYS
AND SEE SOME HOT GUY SHE KNEW IN MIDDLE SCHOOL,
YOU'D HATE IT, RIGHT?
I WON'T DO ANYTHING I WOULDN'T WANT OKA TO DO!
I GUESS IT'S LIKE, "DO UNTO OTHERS AS YOU WOULD HAVE OTHERS DO TO YOU."
FROM CLASSIC LIT CLASS.
WOW... UENO IS REALLY LOYAL TO OKA... I FEEL LIKE HE'S OVERTHINKING A SIMPLE CULTURE FESTIVAL, BUT HIS DEVOTION IS KINDA IMPRESSIVE...

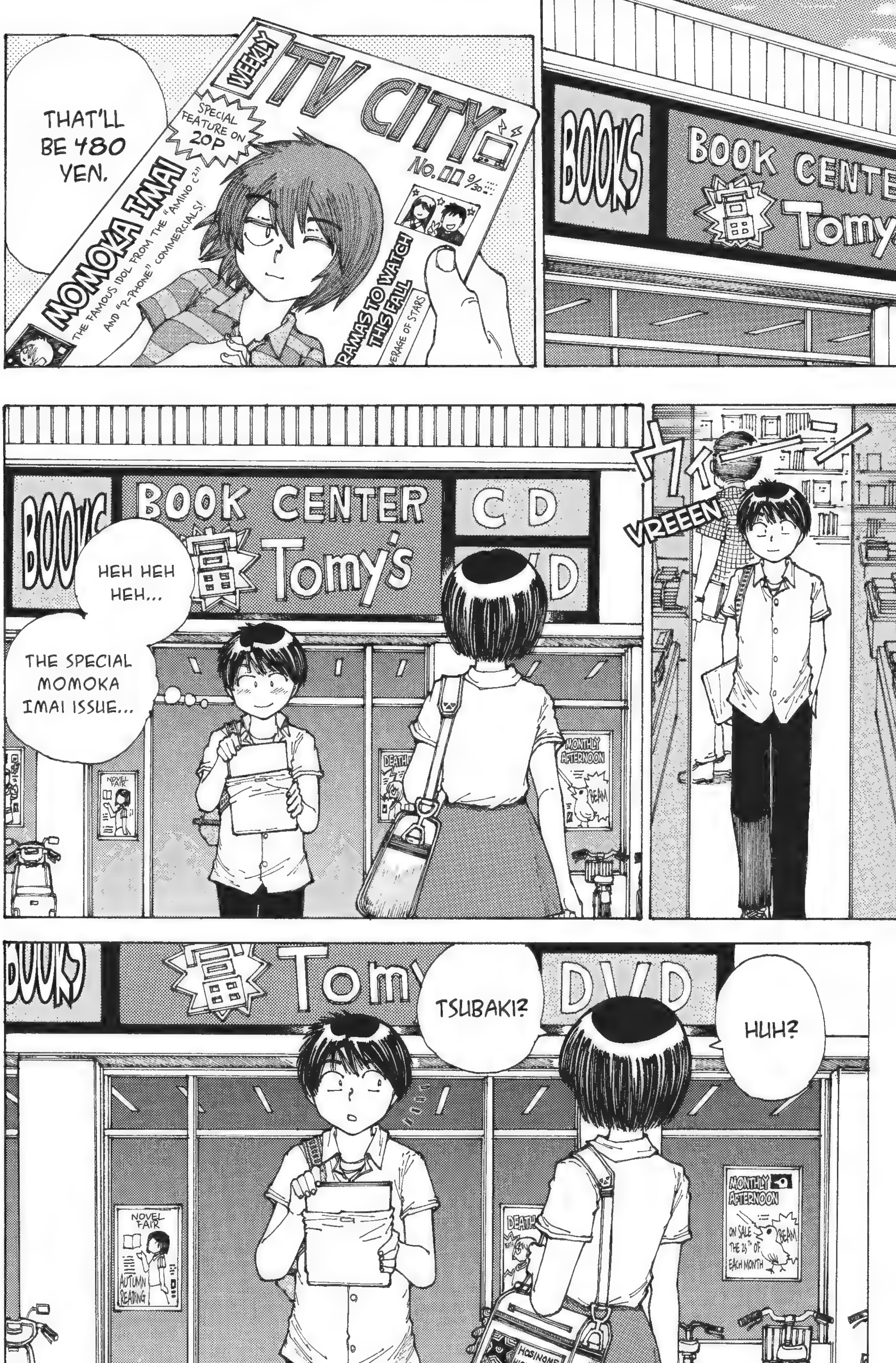

OF COURSE, I'VE GOT URABE, TOO... SO I UNDERSTAND WHAT HE'S SAYING...
BUT
HAYAKAWA WAS
MY FIRST LOVE AND THE GIRL I CRUSHED ON ALL THROUGH MIDDLE SCHOOL...
THE WAY HER LONG HAIR GLISTENED AS IT WAVED IN THE BREEZE...
WHEN I WAS PLACED BEHIND HER AFTER A SEATING CHANGE
AND REALIZED THAT I COULD GAZE AT HER BEAUTIFUL HAIR EVERY DAY...
I SINCERELY GAVE THANKS TO GOD...
SO HAYAKAWA HAD A BOYFRIEND,
AND HE RECENTLY DUMPED HER...

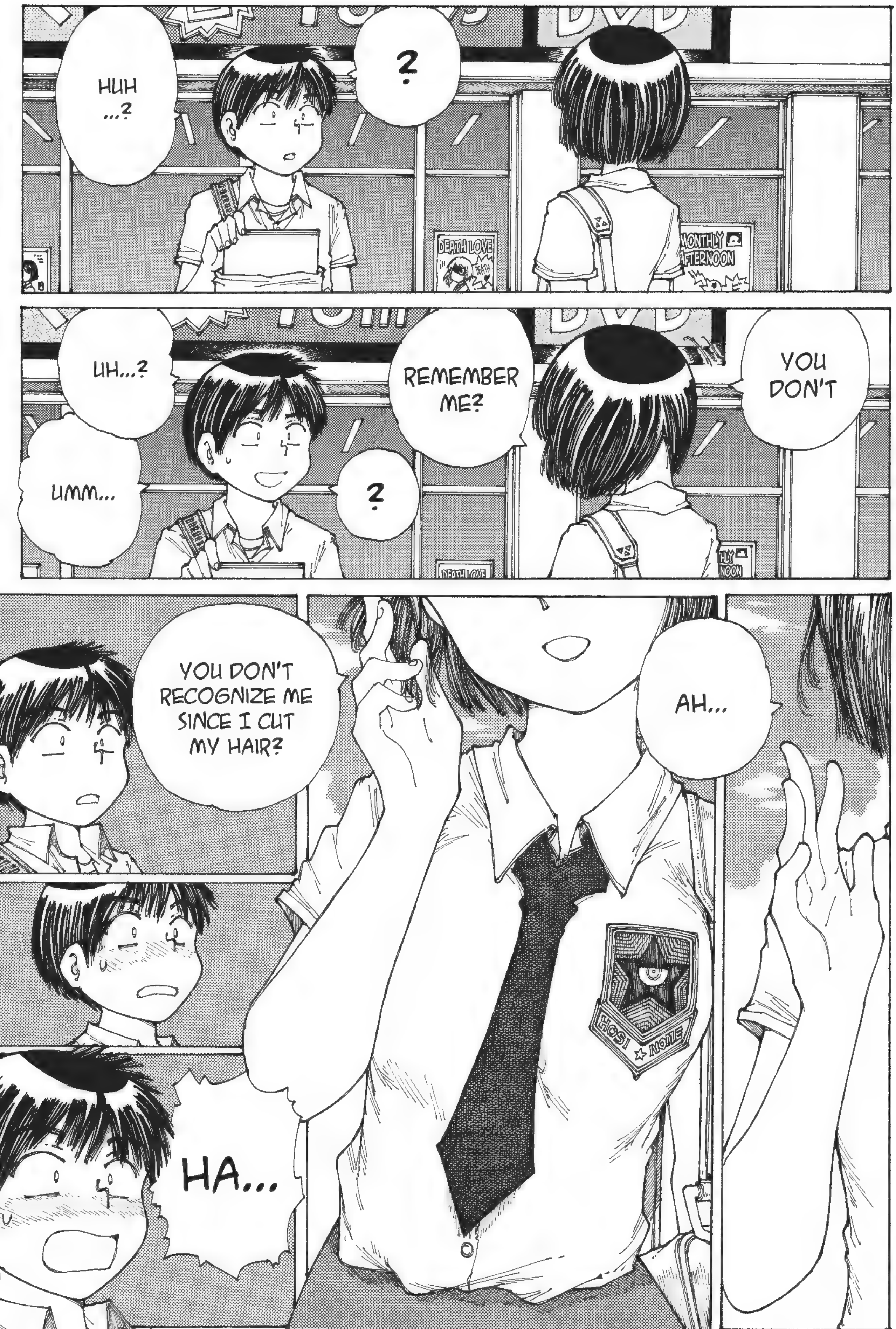

I MIGHT JUST HAVE MY EYE ON HER!
NO,
I DON'T HAVE THAT SORT OF ULTERIOR MOTIVE...
BUT I KINDA WANT TO SEE HER.
UGH, WHAT SHOULD I DO...
TSUBAKI.
AH?!
HUH?
WHAT IS IT?
WHY ARE YOU
STARING INTO SPACE?
OH...
I WAS JUST THINKING ABOUT SOMETHING.

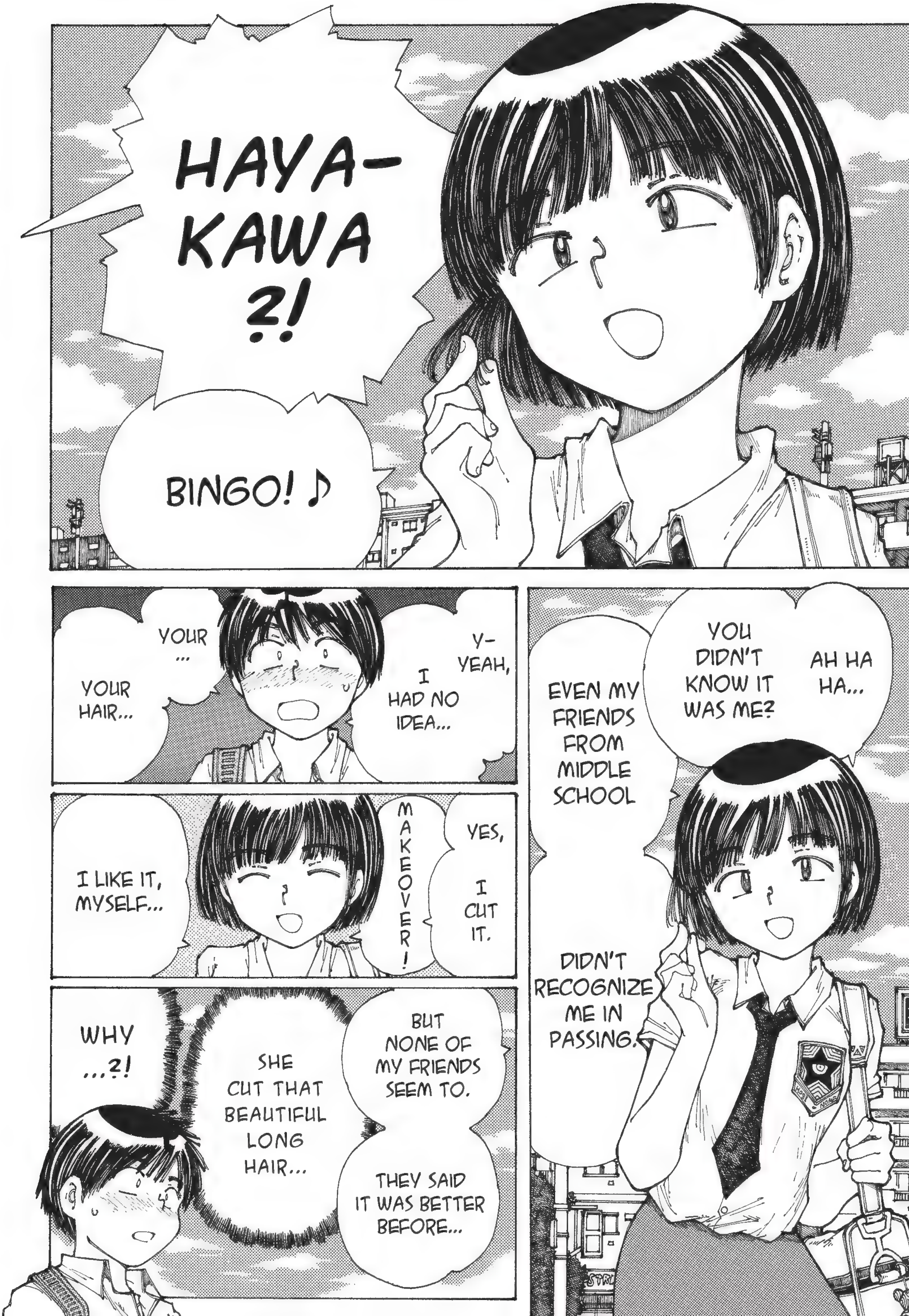

SHLP
HERE,
FOR TODAY'S
ROUTINE ...
OKAY.
!
...
WHAT'S WRONG, TSUBAKI?
UH,
WELL...
I TASTE YOUR DROOL EVERY DAY...
BUT IT JUST HIT ME AGAIN...

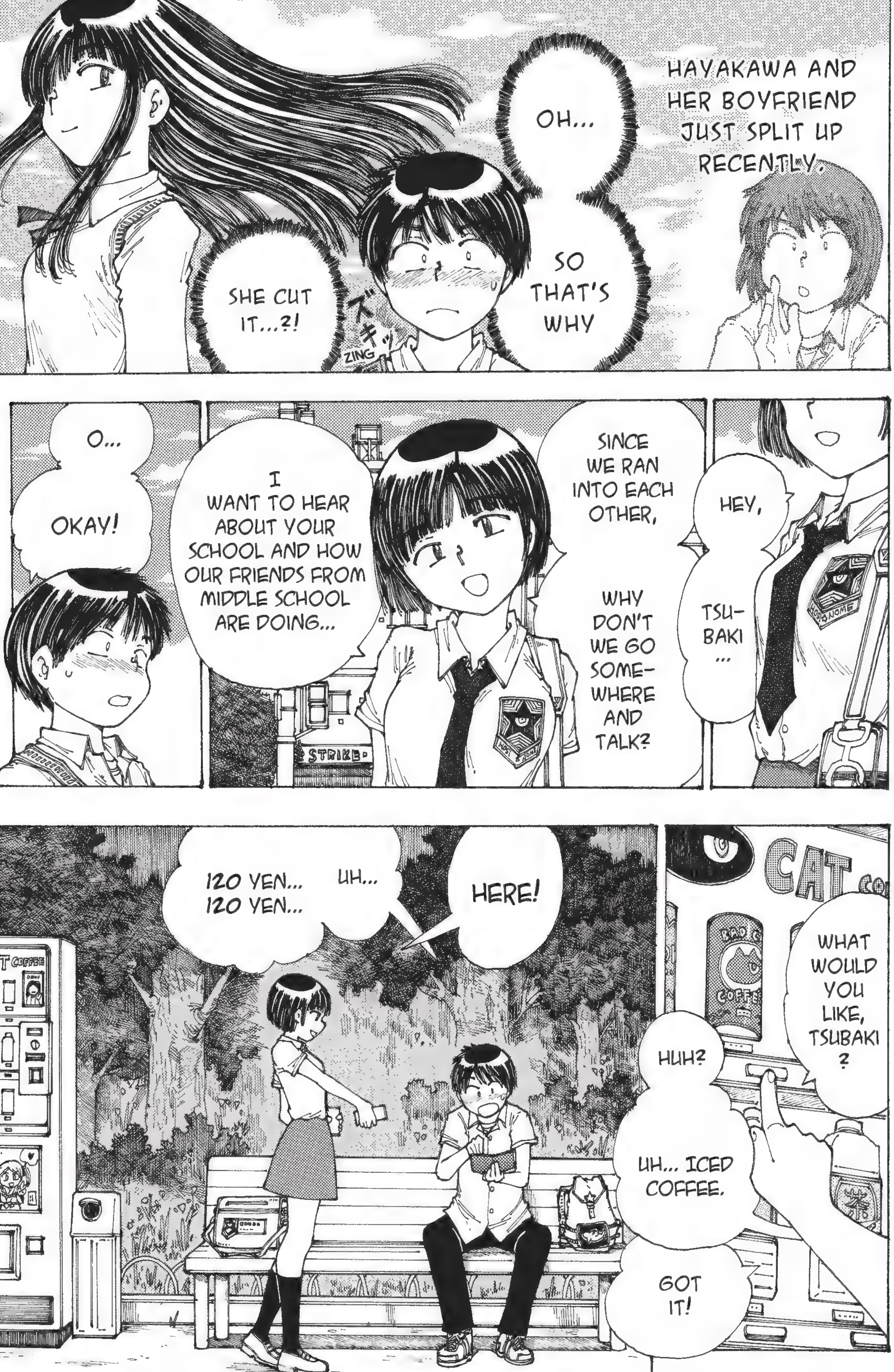

THAT YOUR DROOL...
URABE...
IS REALLY SWEET,
REALLY...?
...
THAT'S IT...
I WON'T DO IT!!
?
WON'T DO... WHAT?
OH,
NOTHING... TALKING TO MYSELF...
AH HA HA HA...
I WON'T DO IT.
I WON'T GO TO THE HOSHINOME GIRLS' ACADEMY CULTURE FESTIVAL.
EVEN IF THE GIRL I ONCE HAD A CRUSH ON IS THERE,

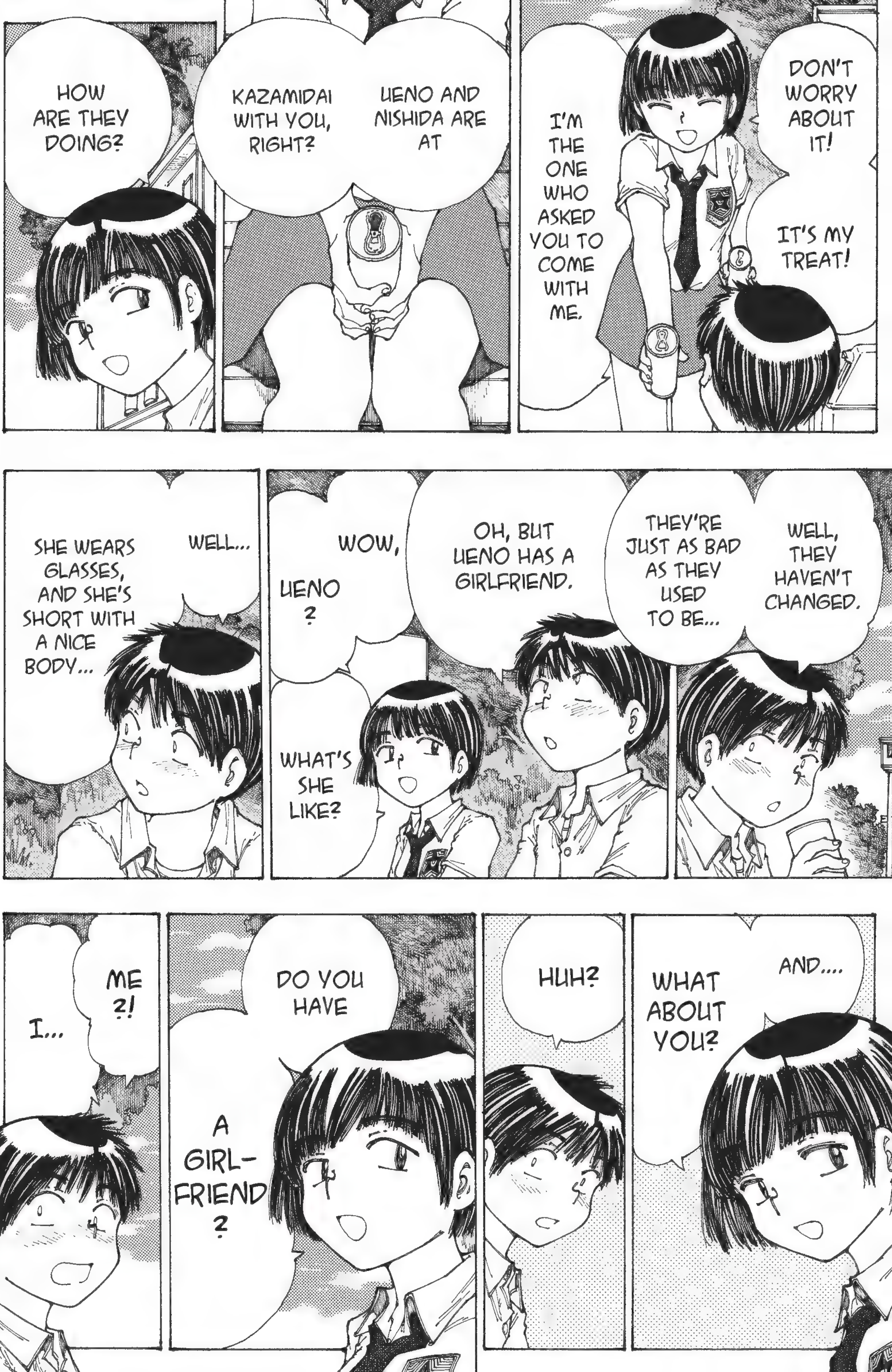

MY GIRLFRIEND...
IS STILL URABE...
WELL, TSUBAKI, SEE YOU TOMORROW...
OKAY!
SEE YA!
HM?
COME TO THINK OF IT...
TODAY'S ISSUE OF WEEKLY TV CITY IS A SPECIAL MOMOKA IMAI ISSUE...
MOMOKA IMAI
A.K.A. HYAKKI
I'M GONNA STOP BY THE BOOKSTORE!
SPIN くるっ
THUP タッ
WELL, I'M NOT GOING TO THE CULTURE FESTIVAL,
SO SHE SHOULD FORGIVE ME FOR THIS LITTLE INFIDELITY...
BESIDES, THE ONLY REASON I LIKE MOMOKA IMAI
IS BECAUSE SHE LOOKS LIKE URABE.
IN OTHER WORDS, THE ONE I LOVE IS URABE! SHE'D NEVER ACCEPT THAT, THOUGH...
THUP THUP THUP タッタッタッ

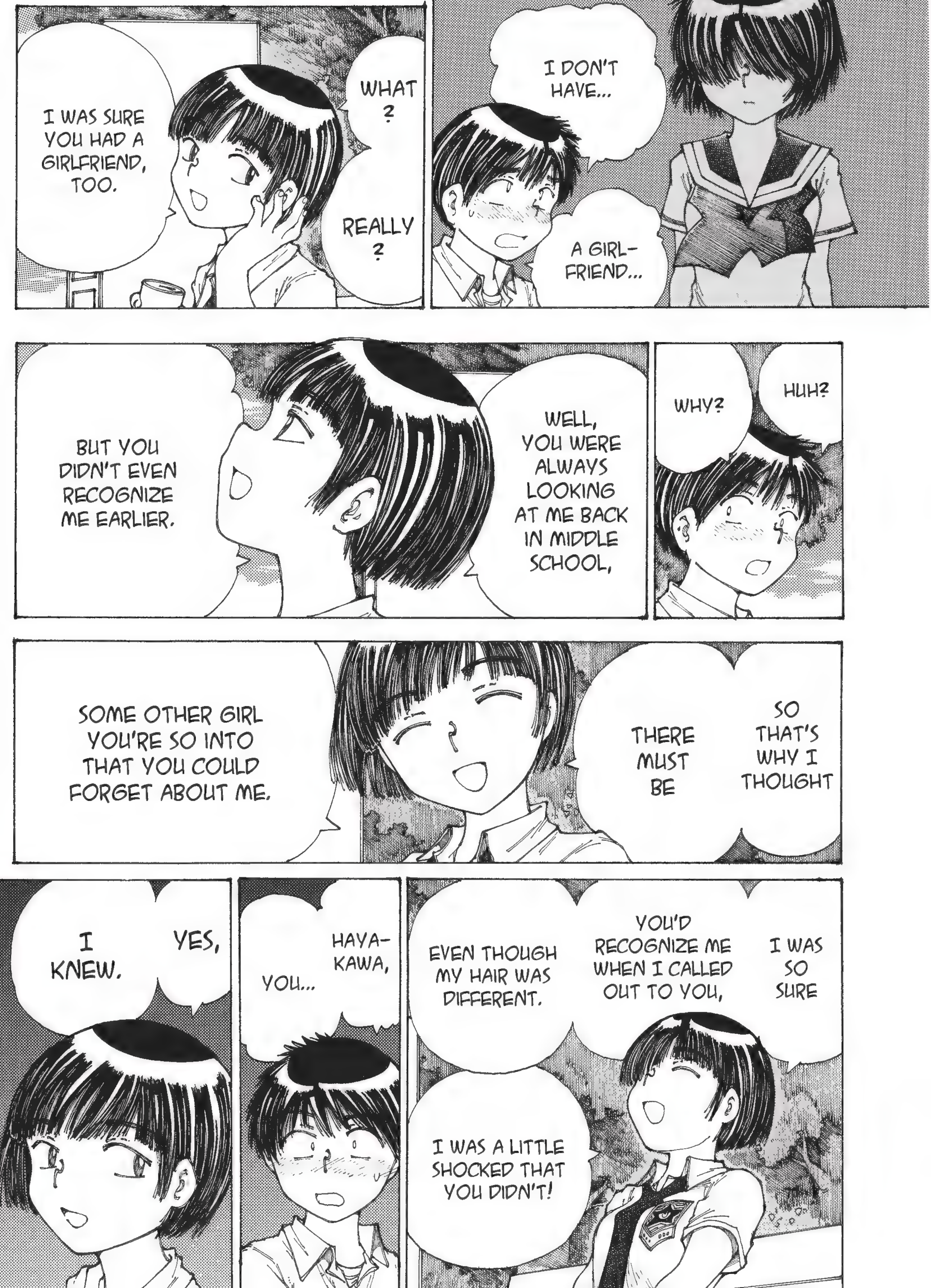

BOOKS
BOOK CENTE
富 Tomy's
THAT'LL BE 480 YEN.
WEEKLY
TV CITY
No. □□ 9/30
SPECIAL FEATURE ON 20P
MOMOKA IMAI
THE FAMOUS IDOL FROM THE "AMINO C²" AND "P-PHONE" COMMERCIALS!
RAMAS TO WATCH THIS FALL
VERAGE OF STARS
ウイーン
VREEEN
BOOKS
BOOK CENTER
富 Tomy's
C D
D
HEH HEH HEH...
THE SPECIAL MOMOKA IMAI ISSUE...
NOVEL FAIR
DEATH
MONTHLY AFTERNOON
BEAM
BOOKS
富 Tomy
DVD
HUH?
TSUBAKI?
NOVEL FAIR
AUTUMN READING
DEATH
MONTHLY AFTERNOON
ON SALE THE 25TH OF EACH MONTH
BEAM
HOSINOME

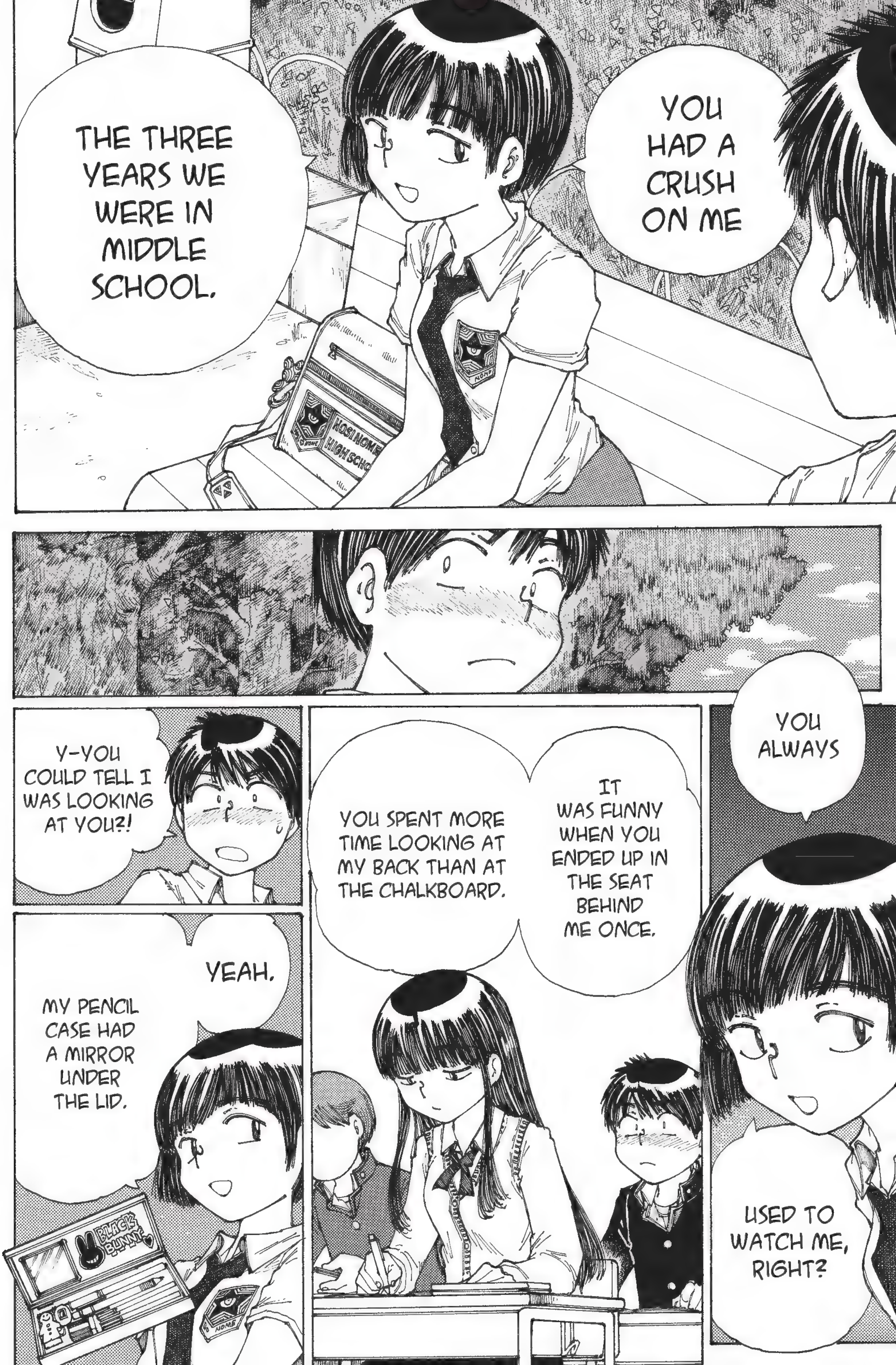

DVD
?
HUH ...?
MONTHLY AFTERNOON
DEATH LOVE
DEATH
YOU DON'T
REMEMBER ME?
?
UH...?
UMM...
AH...
YOU DON'T RECOGNIZE ME SINCE I CUT MY HAIR?
HOSI ☆ NOME
HA...

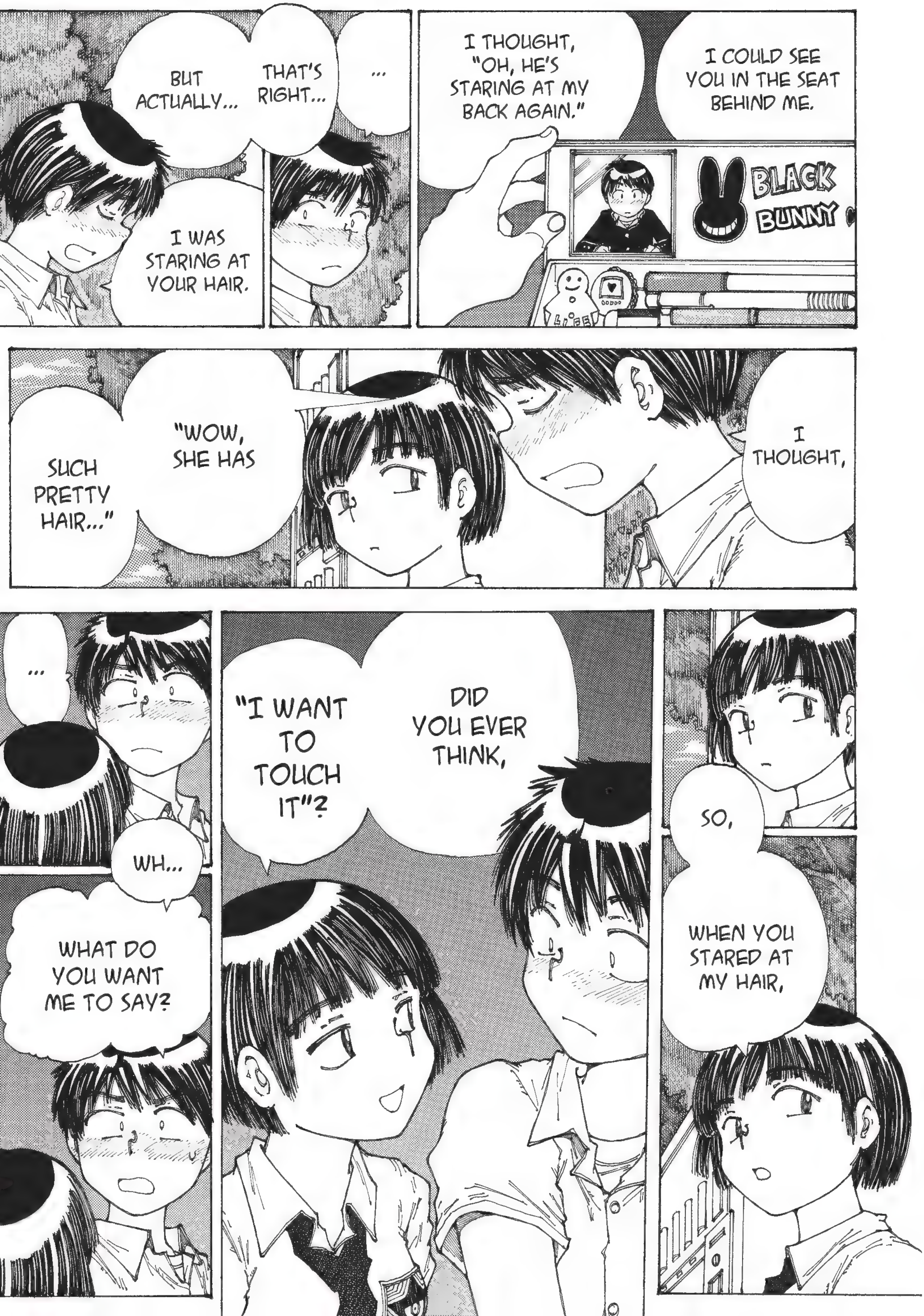

HAYA-KAWA?!
BINGO! ♪
AH HA HA...
YOU DIDN'T KNOW IT WAS ME?
EVEN MY FRIENDS FROM MIDDLE SCHOOL
DIDN'T RECOGNIZE ME IN PASSING.
Y-YEAH,
I HAD NO IDEA...
YOUR ...
YOUR HAIR...
YES,
I CUT IT.
MAKEOVER!
I LIKE IT, MYSELF...
BUT NONE OF MY FRIENDS SEEM TO.
THEY SAID IT WAS BETTER BEFORE...
SHE CUT THAT BEAUTIFUL LONG HAIR...
WHY ...?!

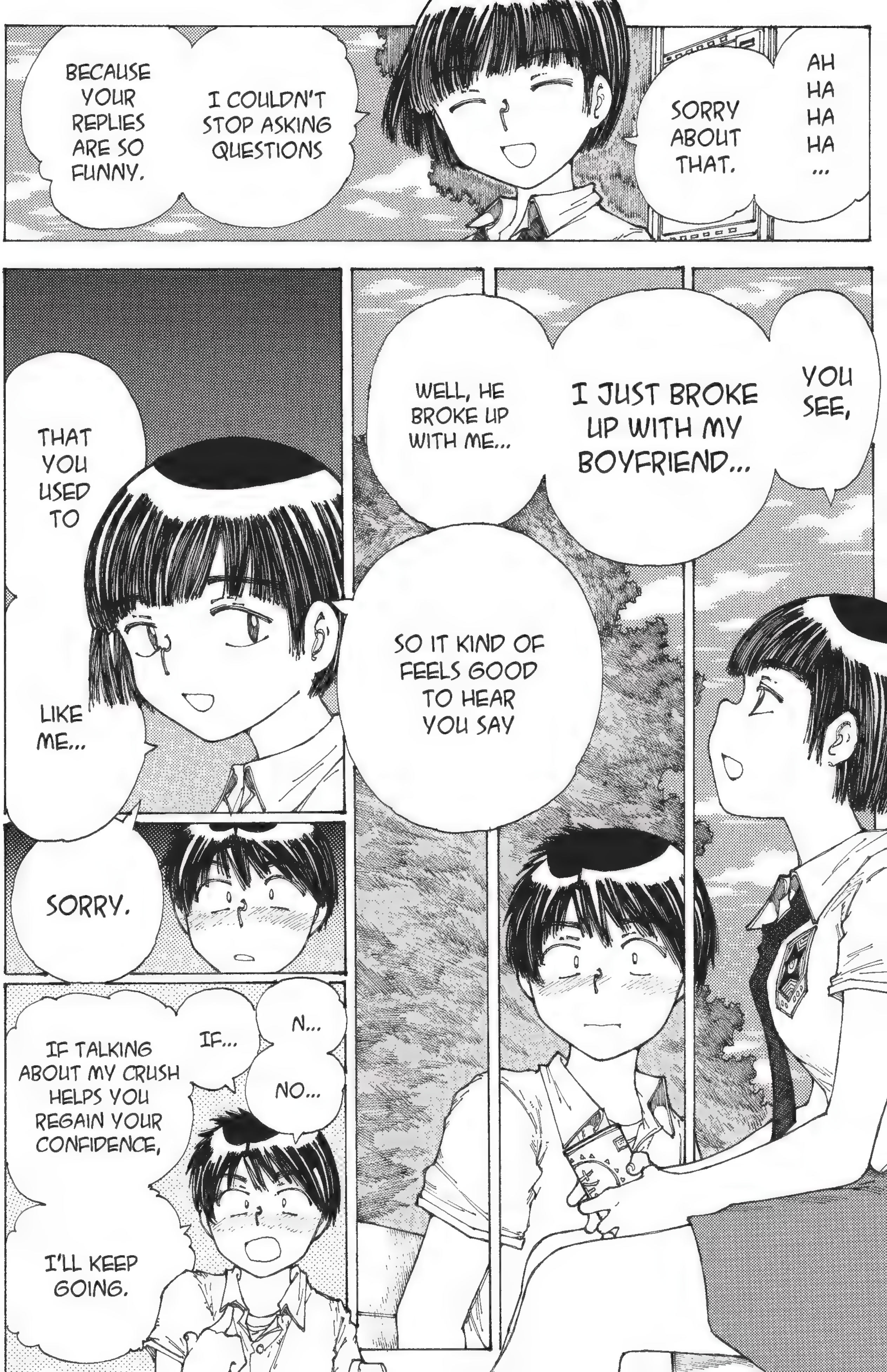

HAYAKAWA AND HER BOYFRIEND JUST SPLIT UP RECENTLY.
OH... SO THAT'S WHY
SHE CUT IT...?!
ズキッ
ZING
HEY, TSUBAKI...
SINCE WE RAN INTO EACH OTHER, WHY DON'T WE GO SOMEWHERE AND TALK?
I WANT TO HEAR ABOUT YOUR SCHOOL AND HOW OUR FRIENDS FROM MIDDLE SCHOOL ARE DOING...
O... OKAY!
STRIKE
CAT
COFFEE
WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE, TSUBAKI?
HUH?
UH... ICED COFFEE.
GOT IT!
HERE!
UH...
120 YEN... 120 YEN...

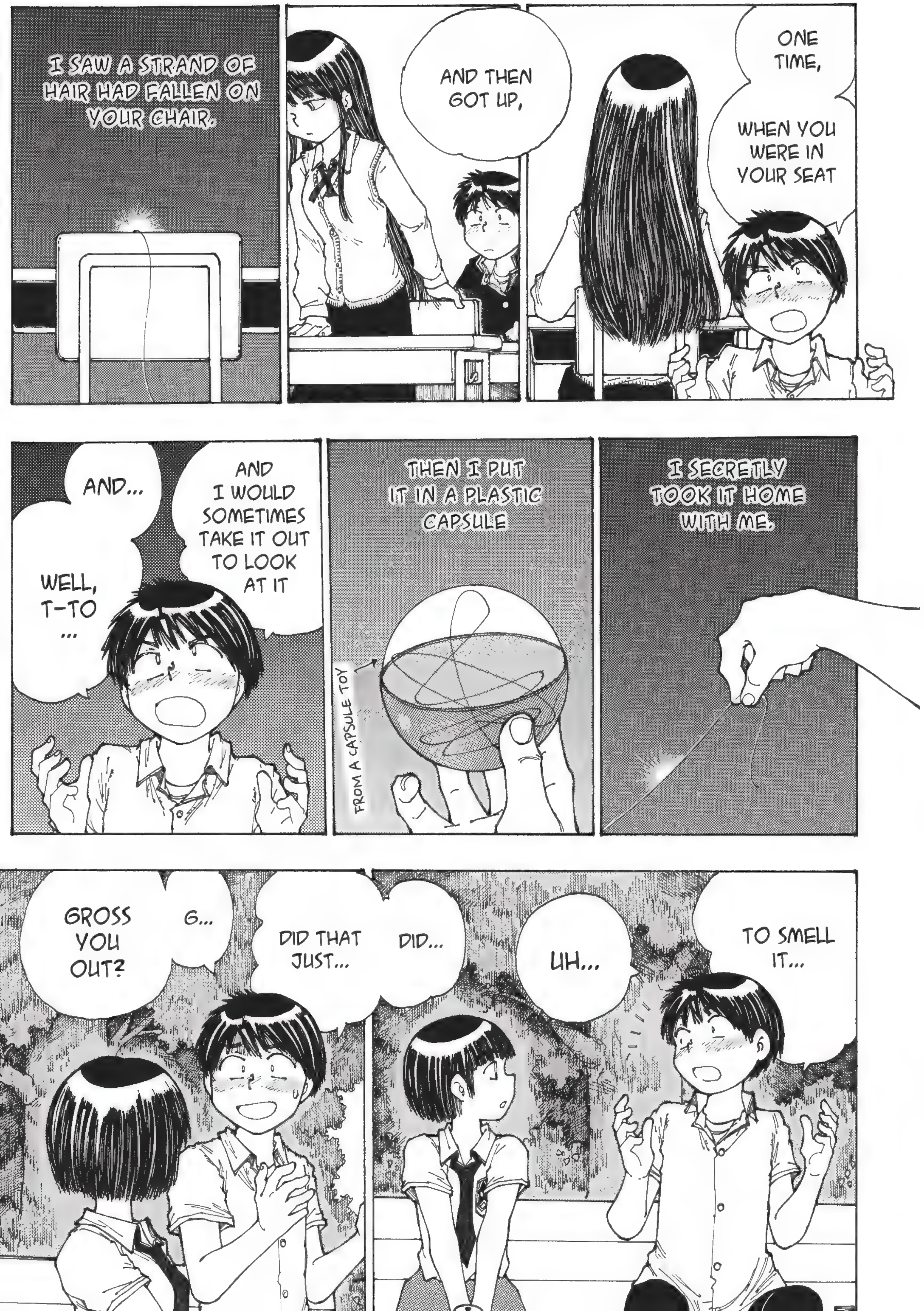

DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT!
IT'S MY TREAT!
I'M THE ONE WHO ASKED YOU TO COME WITH ME.
UENO AND NISHIDA ARE AT
KAZAMIDAI WITH YOU, RIGHT?
HOW ARE THEY DOING?
WELL, THEY HAVEN'T CHANGED.
THEY'RE JUST AS BAD AS THEY USED TO BE...
OH, BUT UENO HAS A GIRLFRIEND.
WOW,
UENO?
WHAT'S SHE LIKE?
WELL...
SHE WEARS GLASSES, AND SHE'S SHORT WITH A NICE BODY...
AND....
WHAT ABOUT YOU?
HUH?
DO YOU HAVE
A GIRLFRIEND?
ME?!
I...

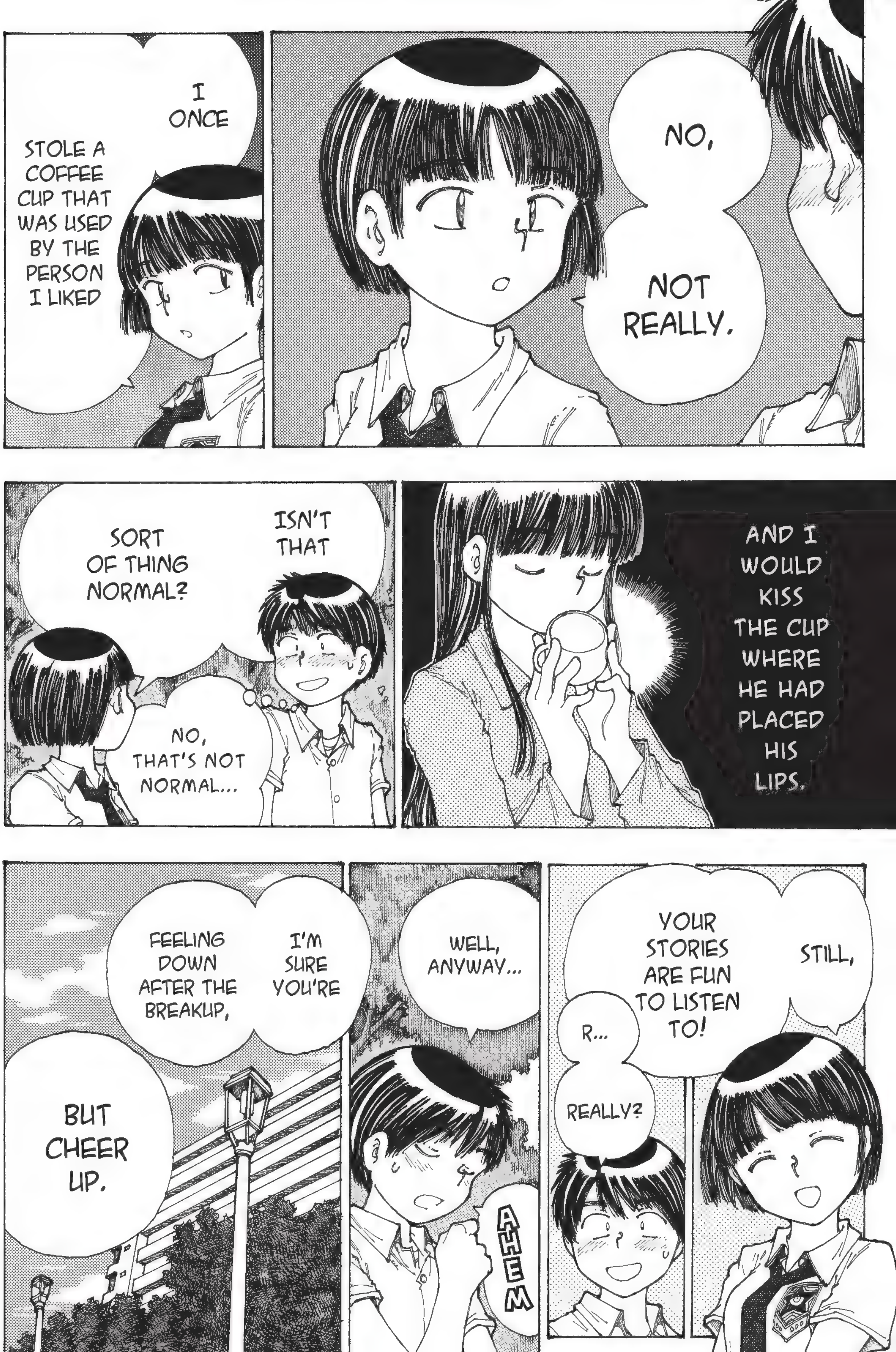

I DON'T HAVE...
A GIRLFRIEND...
WHAT?
REALLY?
I WAS SURE YOU HAD A GIRLFRIEND, TOO.
HUH?
WHY?
WELL, YOU WERE ALWAYS LOOKING AT ME BACK IN MIDDLE SCHOOL,
BUT YOU DIDN'T EVEN RECOGNIZE ME EARLIER.
SO THAT'S WHY I THOUGHT
THERE MUST BE
SOME OTHER GIRL YOU'RE SO INTO THAT YOU COULD FORGET ABOUT ME.
I WAS SO SURE
YOU'D RECOGNIZE ME WHEN I CALLED OUT TO YOU,
EVEN THOUGH MY HAIR WAS DIFFERENT.
I WAS A LITTLE SHOCKED THAT YOU DIDN'T!
HAYAKAWA,
YOU...
YES,
I KNEW.

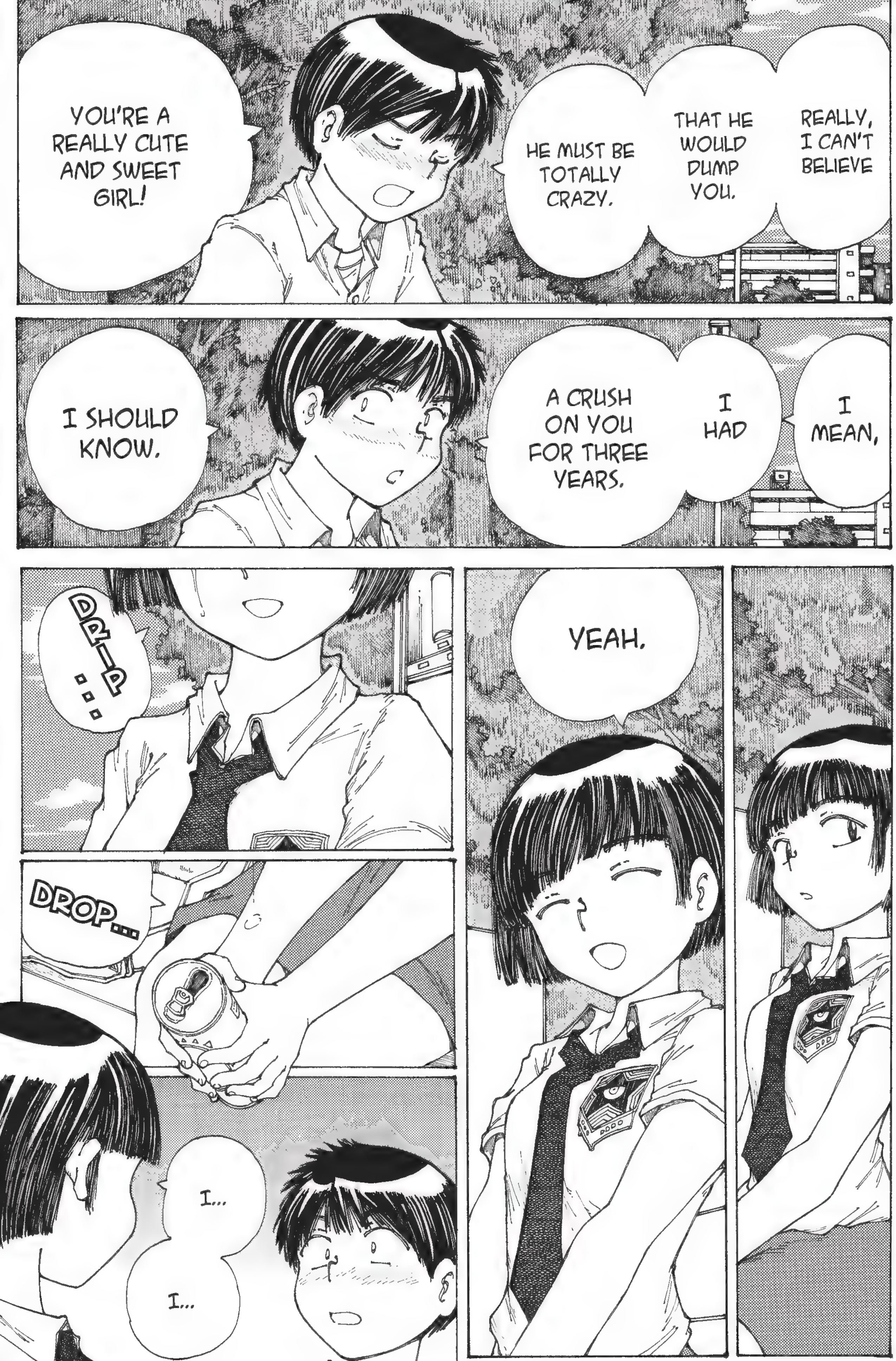

YOU HAD A CRUSH ON ME
THE THREE YEARS WE WERE IN MIDDLE SCHOOL.
NOME
HOSI NOME HIGH SCHO
YOU ALWAYS
USED TO WATCH ME, RIGHT?
IT WAS FUNNY WHEN YOU ENDED UP IN THE SEAT BEHIND ME ONCE.
YOU SPENT MORE TIME LOOKING AT MY BACK THAN AT THE CHALKBOARD.
Y-YOU COULD TELL I WAS LOOKING AT YOU?!
YEAH.
MY PENCIL CASE HAD A MIRROR UNDER THE LID.
BLACK BUNNY
NOME

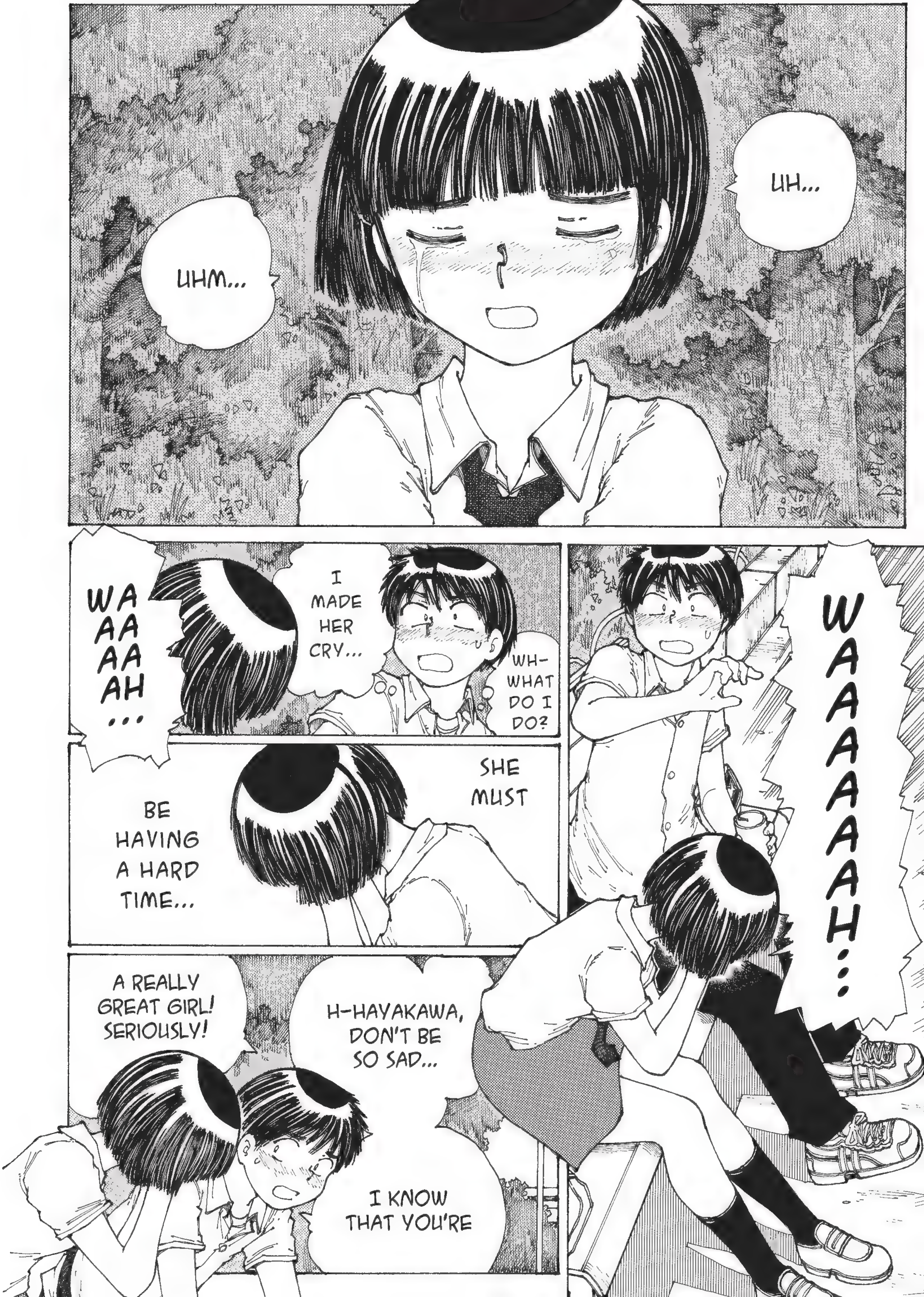

I COULD SEE YOU IN THE SEAT BEHIND ME.
I THOUGHT, "OH, HE'S STARING AT MY BACK AGAIN."
BLACK BUNNY
...
THAT'S RIGHT...
BUT ACTUALLY...
I WAS STARING AT YOUR HAIR.
I THOUGHT,
"WOW, SHE HAS
SUCH PRETTY HAIR..."
SO,
WHEN YOU STARED AT MY HAIR,
DID YOU EVER THINK,
"I WANT TO TOUCH IT"?
...
WH...
WHAT DO YOU WANT ME TO SAY?

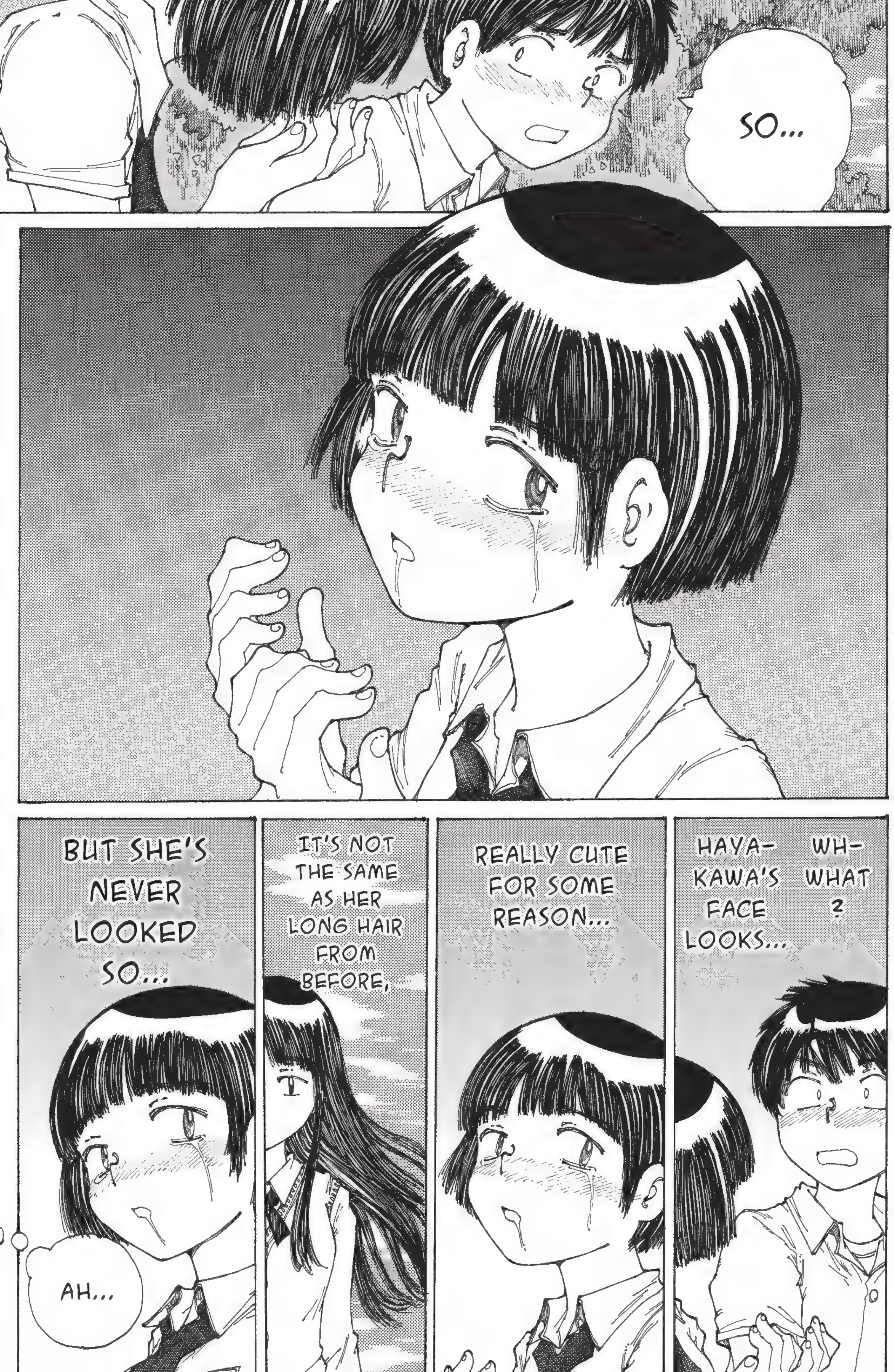

AH HA HA HA...
SORRY ABOUT THAT.
I COULDN'T STOP ASKING QUESTIONS
BECAUSE YOUR REPLIES ARE SO FUNNY.
YOU SEE,
I JUST BROKE UP WITH MY BOYFRIEND...
WELL, HE BROKE UP WITH ME...
SO IT KIND OF FEELS GOOD TO HEAR YOU SAY
THAT YOU USED TO
LIKE ME...
SORRY.
N...
NO...
IF...
IF TALKING ABOUT MY CRUSH HELPS YOU REGAIN YOUR CONFIDENCE,
I'LL KEEP GOING.

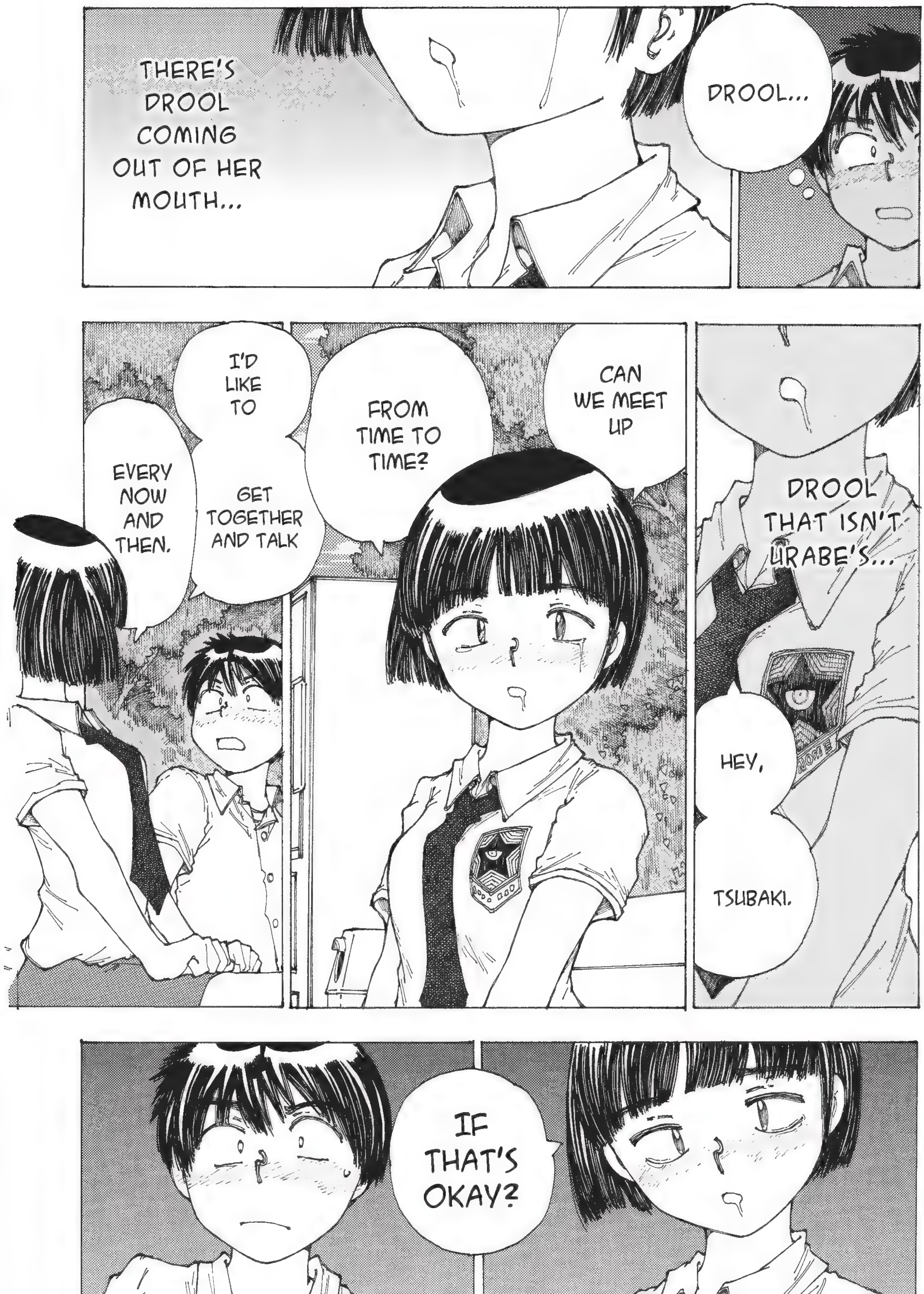

ONE TIME,
WHEN YOU WERE IN YOUR SEAT
AND THEN GOT UP,
I SAW A STRAND OF HAIR HAD FALLEN ON YOUR CHAIR.
I SECRETLY TOOK IT HOME WITH ME.
THEN I PUT IT IN A PLASTIC CAPSULE
FROM A CAPSULE TOY
AND I WOULD SOMETIMES TAKE IT OUT TO LOOK AT IT
AND...
WELL, T-TO ...
TO SMELL IT...
UH...
DID...
DID THAT JUST...
G...
GROSS YOU OUT?

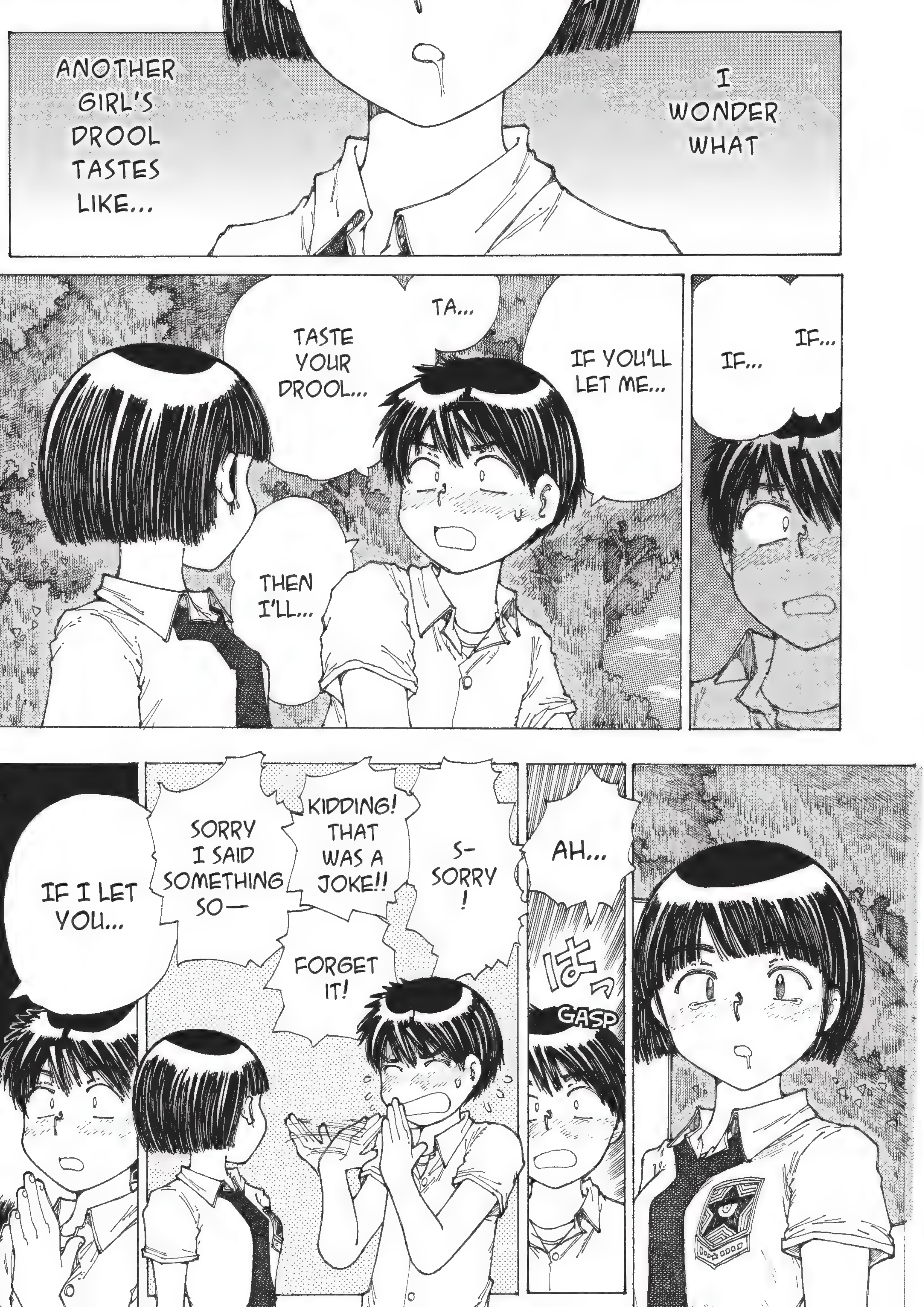

NO, NOT REALLY.
I ONCE STOLE A COFFEE CUP THAT WAS USED BY THE PERSON I LIKED
AND I WOULD KISS THE CUP WHERE HE HAD PLACED HIS LIPS.
ISN'T THAT SORT OF THING NORMAL?
NO, THAT'S NOT NORMAL...
STILL, YOUR STORIES ARE FUN TO LISTEN TO!
R... REALLY?
WELL, ANYWAY...
AHEM
I'M SURE YOU'RE FEELING DOWN AFTER THE BREAKUP,
BUT CHEER UP.

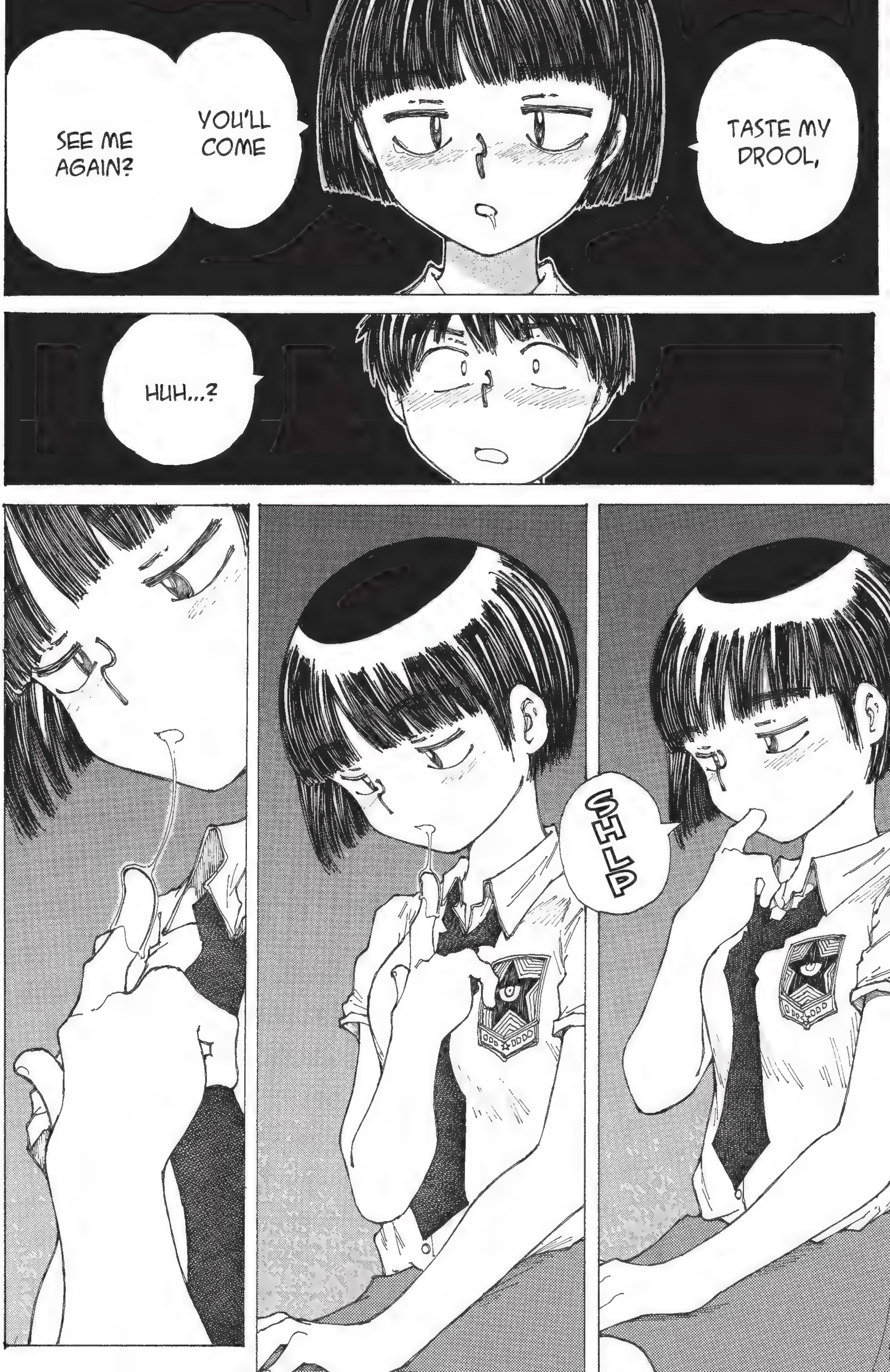

REALLY, I CAN'T BELIEVE
THAT HE WOULD DUMP YOU.
HE MUST BE TOTALLY CRAZY.
YOU'RE A REALLY CUTE AND SWEET GIRL!
I MEAN,
I HAD
A CRUSH ON YOU FOR THREE YEARS.
I SHOULD KNOW.
YEAH.
DRIP...
DROP...
I...
I...

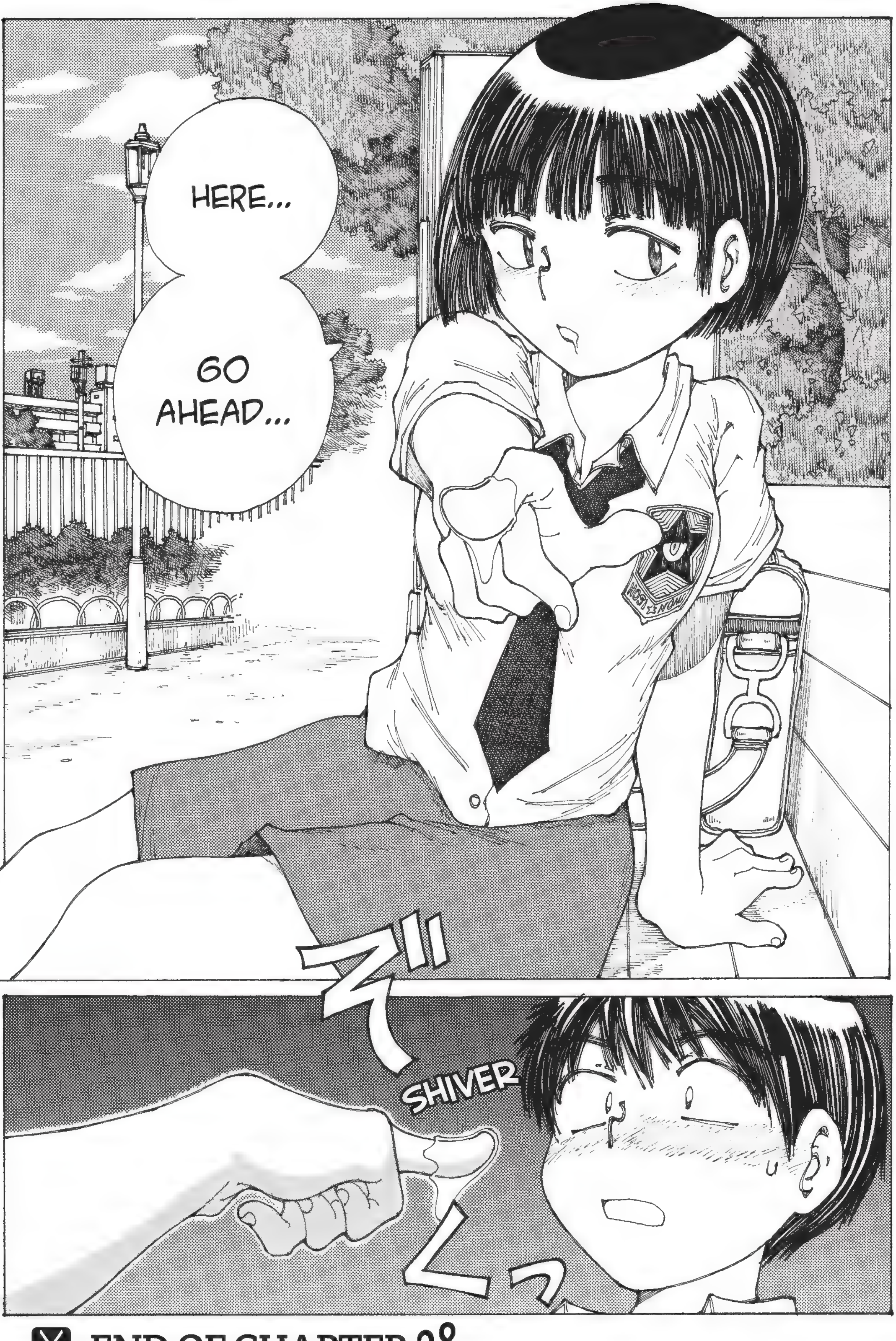

UH...
UHM...
WAAAAAAAH...
I MADE HER CRY...
WH-WHAT DO I DO?
WAAAAAAH...
SHE MUST
BE HAVING A HARD TIME...
H-HAYAKAWA, DON'T BE SO SAD...
I KNOW THAT YOU'RE
A REALLY GREAT GIRL! SERIOUSLY!


SO...
WH-WHAT?
HAYAKAWA'S FACE LOOKS...
REALLY CUTE FOR SOME REASON...
IT'S NOT THE SAME AS HER LONG HAIR FROM BEFORE,
BUT SHE'S NEVER LOOKED SO...
AH...


DROOL...
THERE'S DROOL COMING OUT OF HER MOUTH...
DROOL THAT ISN'T URABE'S...
HEY,
TSUBAKI.
CAN WE MEET UP
FROM TIME TO TIME?
I'D LIKE TO
GET TOGETHER AND TALK
EVERY NOW AND THEN.
IF THAT'S OKAY?


I WONDER WHAT
ANOTHER GIRL'S DROOL TASTES LIKE...
IF... IF...
IF YOU'LL LET ME...
TA...
TASTE YOUR DROOL...
THEN I'LL...
AH...
はっ
GASP
S-SORRY!
KIDDING! THAT WAS A JOKE!!
SORRY I SAID SOMETHING SO—
FORGET IT!
IF I LET YOU...


TASTE MY DROOL,
YOU'LL COME
SEE ME AGAIN?
HUH...?
SHLP

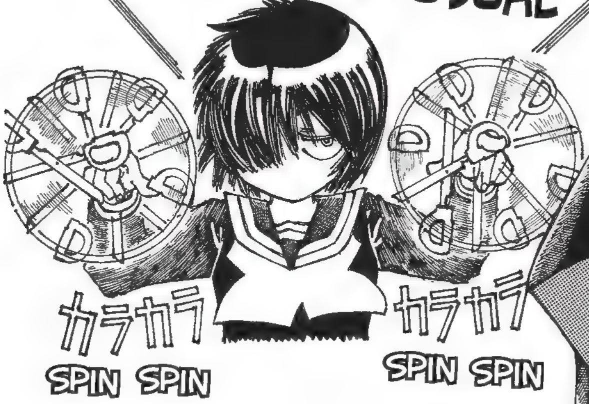

HERE...
GO AHEAD...
ズ
SHIVER
くっ

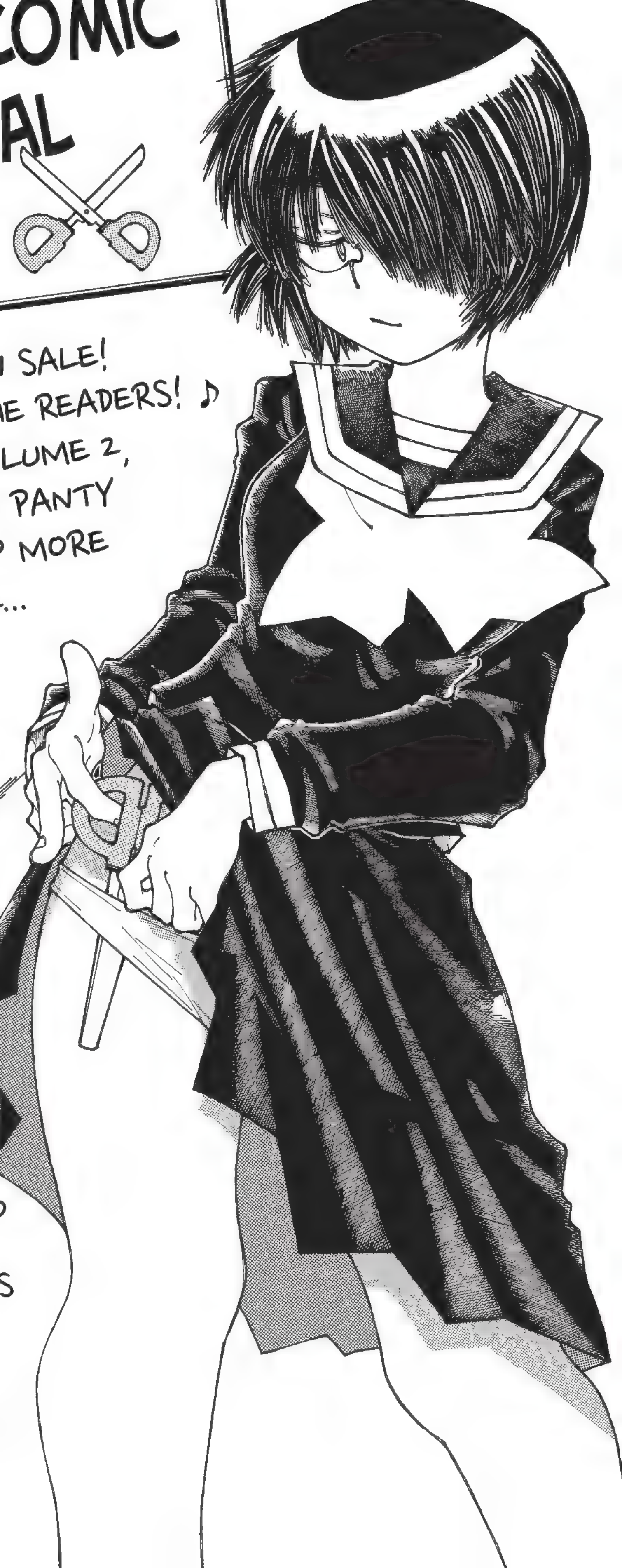
END OF CHAPTER 28

A ROMANCE COMIC WITH A SPECIAL TECHNIQUE

VOLUME 2 IS NOW ON SALE! IT'S THANKS TO ALL OF THE READERS! ♪ LOOKING BACK ON VOLUME 2, IT SEEMS LIKE THE PANTY SCISSORS SHOW UP MORE THAN USUAL...

THEY'RE SPINNING MORE THAN USUAL

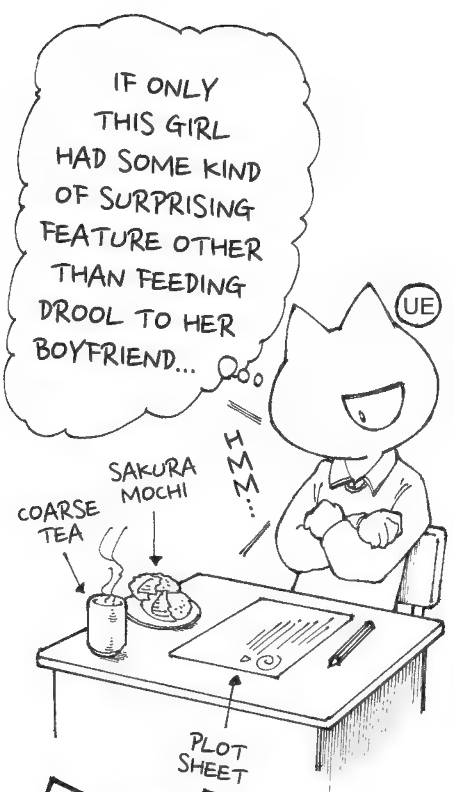

カラカラ
SPIN SPIN
カラカラ
SPIN SPIN



PANTY SCISSORS IS THE SPECIAL WEAPON OF THIS COMIC'S HEROINE, MIKOTO URABE. THAT'S RIGHT! "MYSTERIOUS GIRLFRIEND X" IS

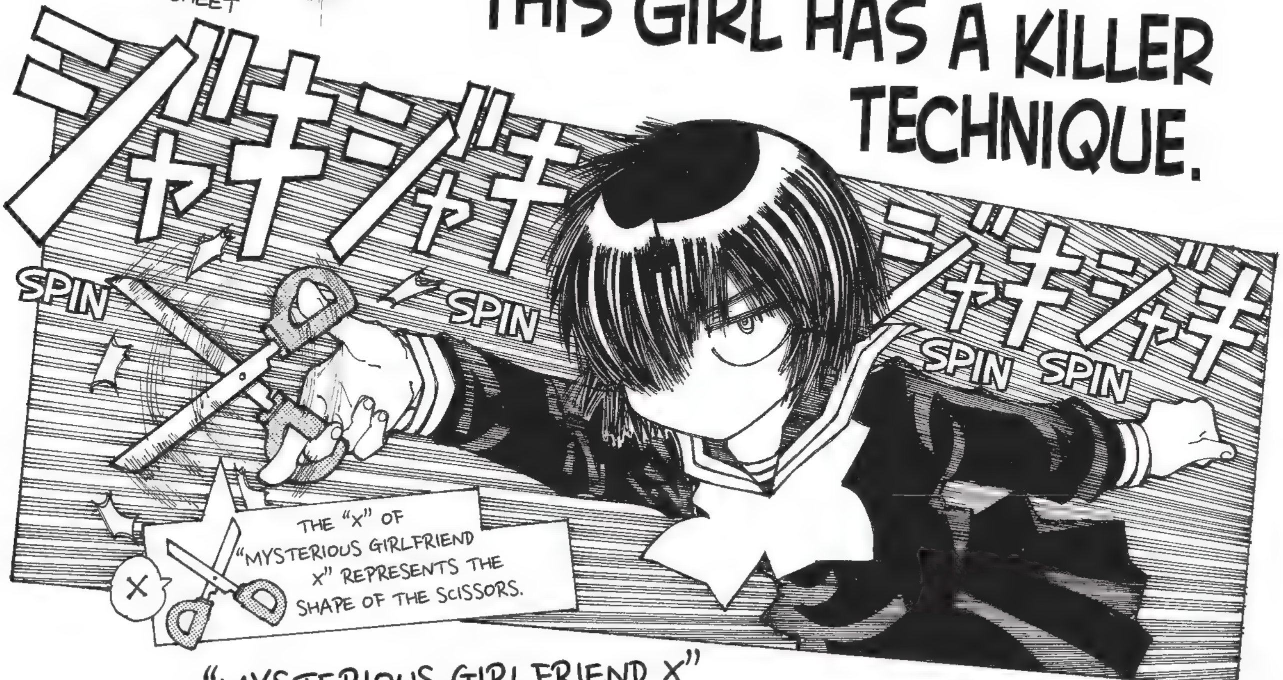
"A ROMANCE COMIC WITH A KILLER MOVE,"

YOU SEE!!


IF ONLY THIS GIRL HAD SOME KIND OF SURPRISING FEATURE OTHER THAN FEEDING DROOL TO HER BOYFRIEND...
UE
HMM...
SAKURA MOCHI
COARSE TEA
PLOT SHEET

A FEW YEARS AGO, THE AUTHOR WAS WORRIED ABOUT SOMETHING. THIS WAS BACK WHEN HE WAS WORKING OUT THE PLOT FOR HIS NEW SERIES, "MYSTERIOUS GIRLFRIEND X," SOMETHING ALONG THE LINES OF "A MEET-CUTE THAT BEGINS WITH TASTING DROOL." (WHAT KIND OF LINE IS THAT?) HE WANTED TO GIVE THE STORY'S HEROINE SOME SPECIAL, SURPRISING CHARACTERISTIC TO SET HER APART FROM REGULAR GIRLS AND SHOW THAT SHE IS ACTUALLY THE HEROINE. AND AFTER MUCH AGONIZING, AN IDEA FLASHED INTO HIS MIND:

THIS GIRL HAS A KILLER TECHNIQUE.


ジャキジャキ
SPIN
SPIN
ジャキジャキ
SPIN SPIN

THE "X" OF "MYSTERIOUS GIRLFRIEND X" REPRESENTS THE SHAPE OF THE SCISSORS.

"MYSTERIOUS GIRLFRIEND X" WILL SOON REACH ITS 30TH CHAPTER. SO NOW, I'D LIKE TO PRESENT A GENERAL OVERVIEW OF THE SERIES TO THIS POINT IN TERMS OF THE "SPECIAL TECHNIQUE."

ON THAT NOTE, A BONUS COMIC EXCLUSIVE TO THIS VOLUME STARTS ON THE NEXT PAGE! ♪

Dr. Tsubaki's MYSTERIOUS GIRLFRIEND X

SPECIAL TECHNIQUE REPORT

Hello there, dear reader!! I'm Dr. Tsubaki. Today, in celebration of the release of volume 2, I will be presenting a report on the many special techniques I have observed within Mysterious Girlfriend X!!

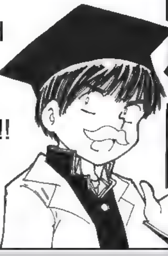
Mysterious Girlfriend X
(Mikoto Urabe)
A mysterious girl. She has many special techniques.

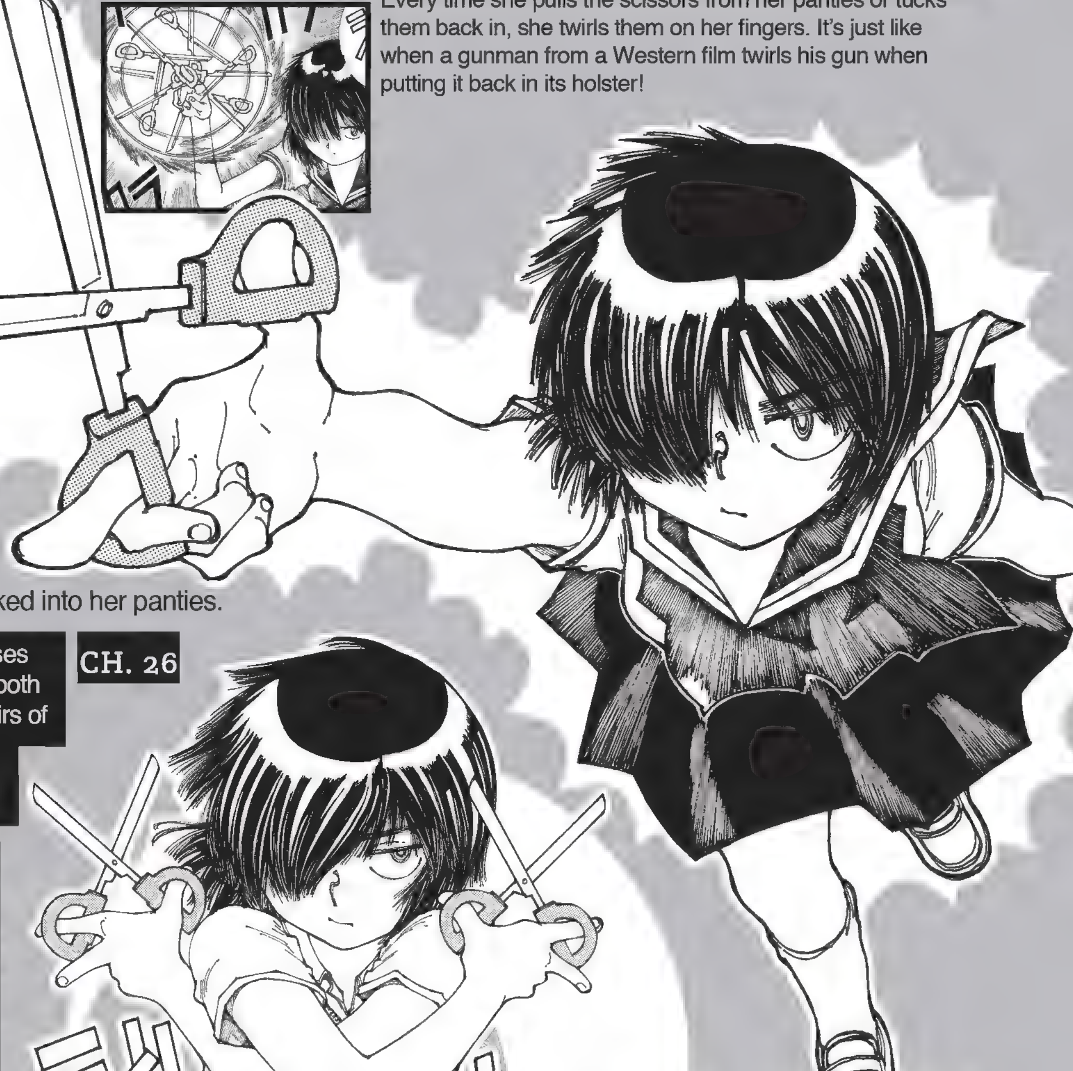
The Leading Researcher of
Mikoto Urabe
from Mysterious Girlfriend X:
Dr. Akira Tsubaki

Special Technique ①

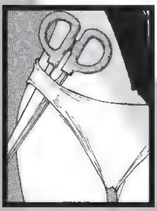
Panty Scissors

The special technique most representative of Mysterious Girlfriend X is, without a doubt, Panty Scissors! It's like EyeOlugger to UOtrOSevO! It's like RockOt Punch to MaOinger Z!! She can whip out her scissors with great speed and use them to cut up anything!





Every time she pulls the scissors from her panties or tucks them back in, she twirls them on her fingers. It's just like when a gunman from a Western film twirls his gun when putting it back in its holster!

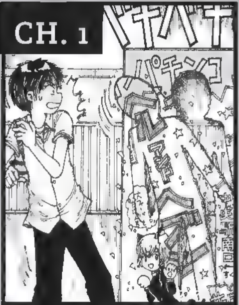


The scissors are tucked into her panties.

CH. 26

In chapter 26, she uses Panty Scissors with both hands! Using two pairs of scissors doubles the move's destructive power!

CH. 1

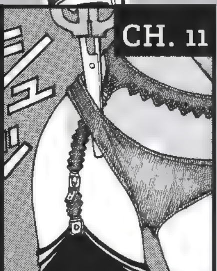


CH. 2

CH. 26

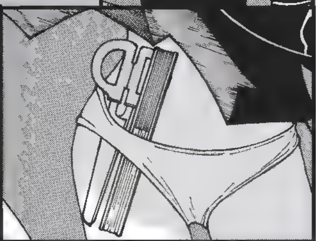
In chapters 1, 2, and 11, she cut up advertisement posters, and in chapter 26, she cut up adult magazines. For all its flashy action, the scissors actually don't cut anything special. In her heart, she might be thinking "Once again, I have cut up a worthless object," just like GoOmon from LuOin!

CH. 11



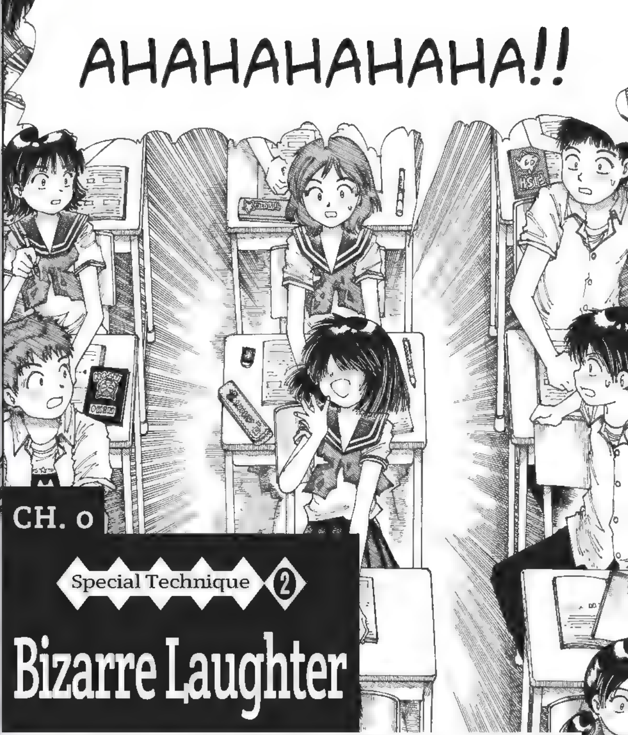
Urabe always wears white panties, but in chapter 11, she wore black ones to match her garter belt.

CH. 14



In chapter 14, she has a folding fan tucked into her panties along with her scissors. Seems it's possible to tuck other objects in those panties, too!

There's still more! Wondrous Mysterious Girlfriend X Special Techniques!!


AHAHAHAHAHA!!

CH. 0

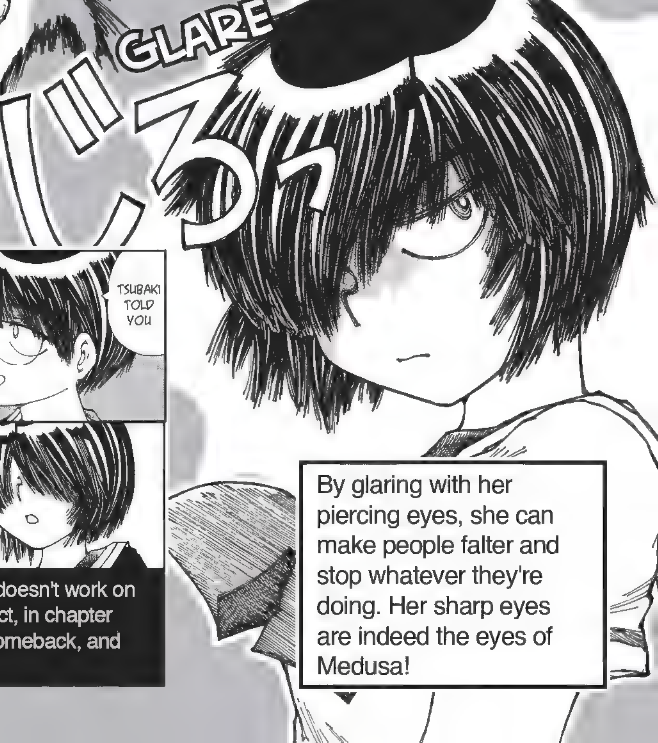
Special Technique ②

Bizarre Laughter

Ignoring the time, place, and occasion, she suddenly bursts into loud laughter. In chapter 0, she used this technique during class, leading all her classmates to immediately think it best to avoid her. Definitely a diffusion-style technique!

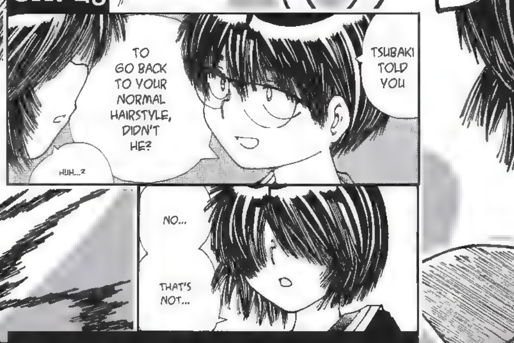
Special Technique ③

The Urabe Medusa Eye



By glaring with her piercing eyes, she can make people falter and stop whatever they're doing. Her sharp eyes are indeed the eyes of Medusa!

CH. 23

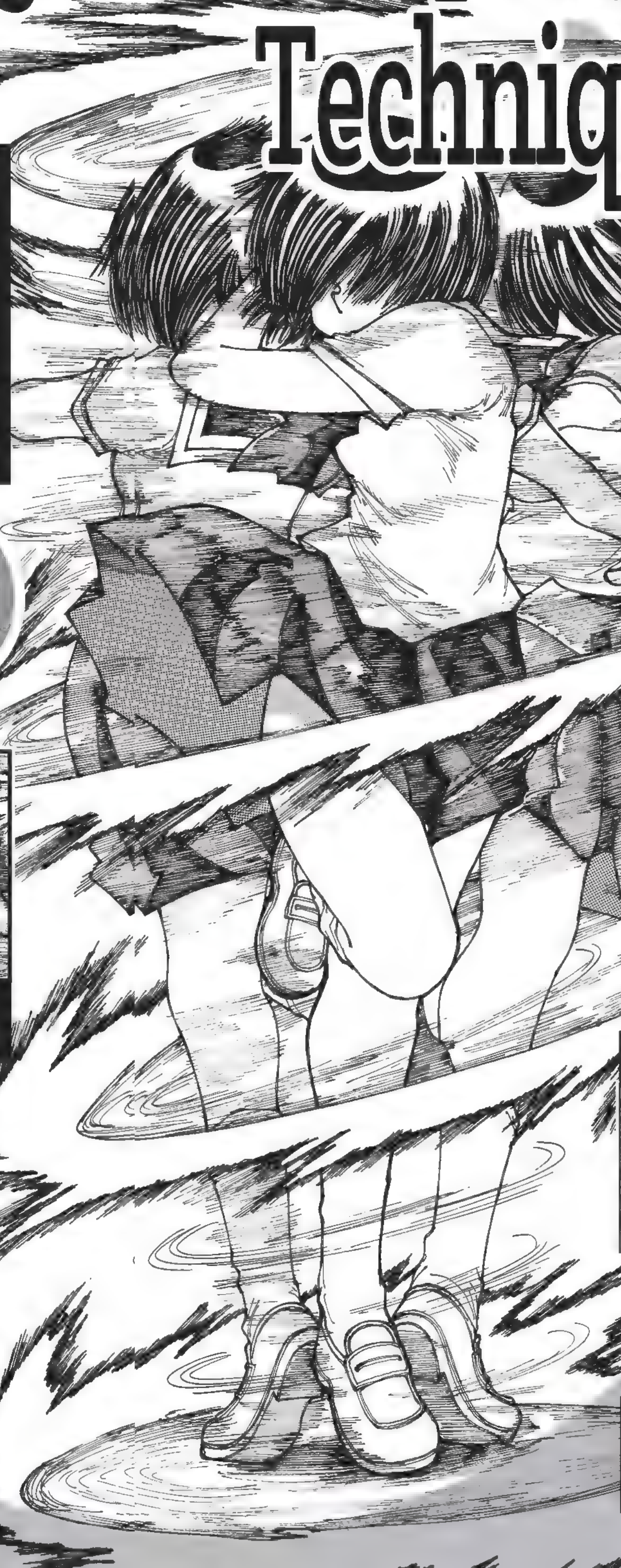

TSUBAKI TOLD YOU
TO GO BACK TO YOUR NORMAL HAIRSTYLE, DIDN'T HE?
NO...
THAT'S NOT...

However, this technique doesn't work on her classmate, Oka. In fact, in chapter 23 Oka jumps in with a comeback, and Urabe is the one to falter.

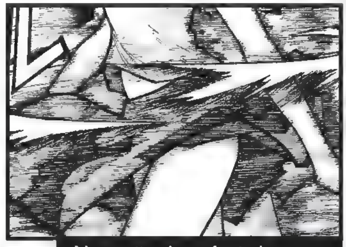
CH. 3

Special Technique ④

Urabe the Tornado



Appears in chapter 3. After spinning around at high speed, she gives her partner a taste of her drool. The night after tasting it, he has a strange dream!!

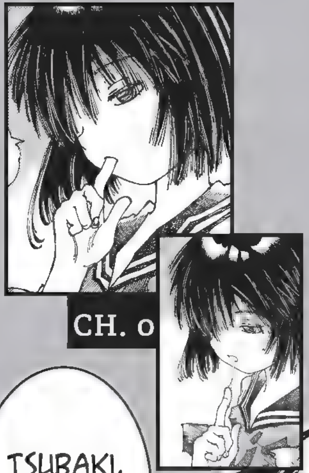


No matter how fast she spins, her panties remain just out of sight!

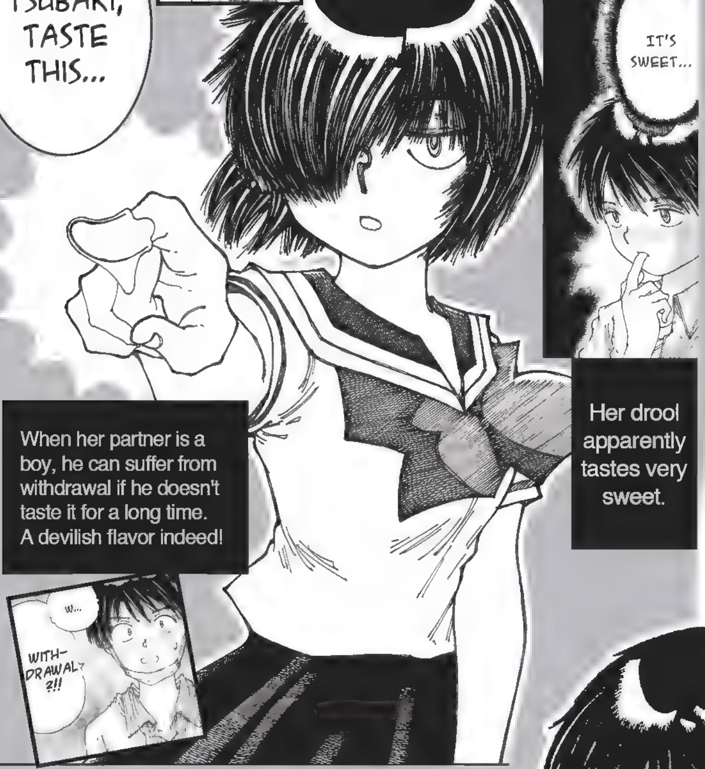
Special Technique ⑤

Urabe Mouth Water

Mouth water, or in other words, drool. Through a taste of her drool, she can convey her physical and emotional condition to her partner.



CH. 0


TSUBAKI, TASTE THIS...
IT'S SWEET...
W...
WITHDRAWAL?!!

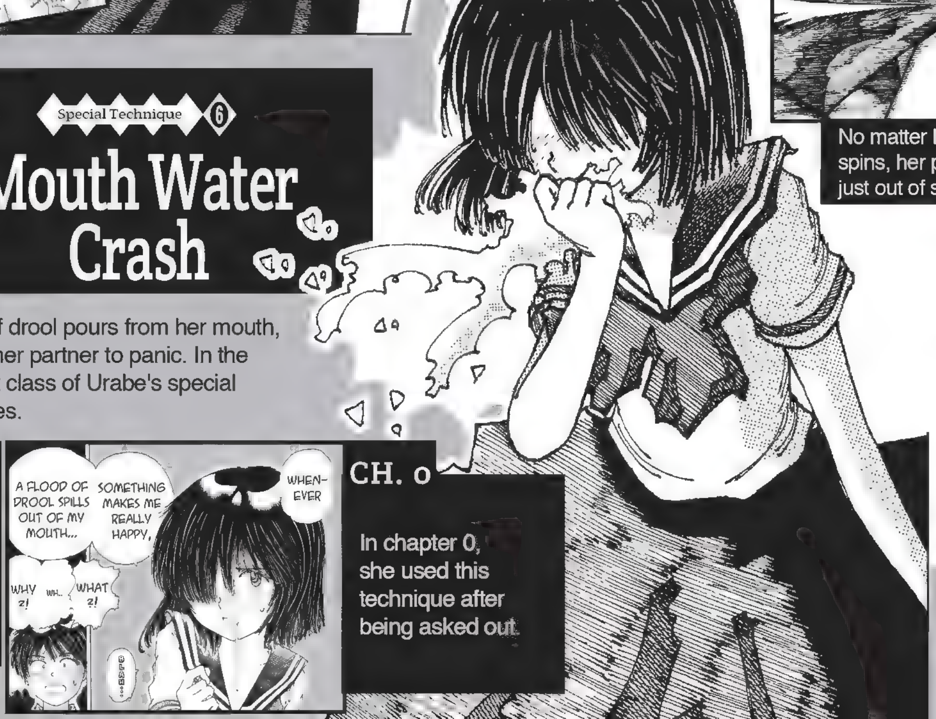
Her drool apparently tastes very sweet.

When her partner is a boy, he can suffer from withdrawal if he doesn't taste it for a long time. A devilish flavor indeed!

Special Technique ⑥

Mouth Water Crash

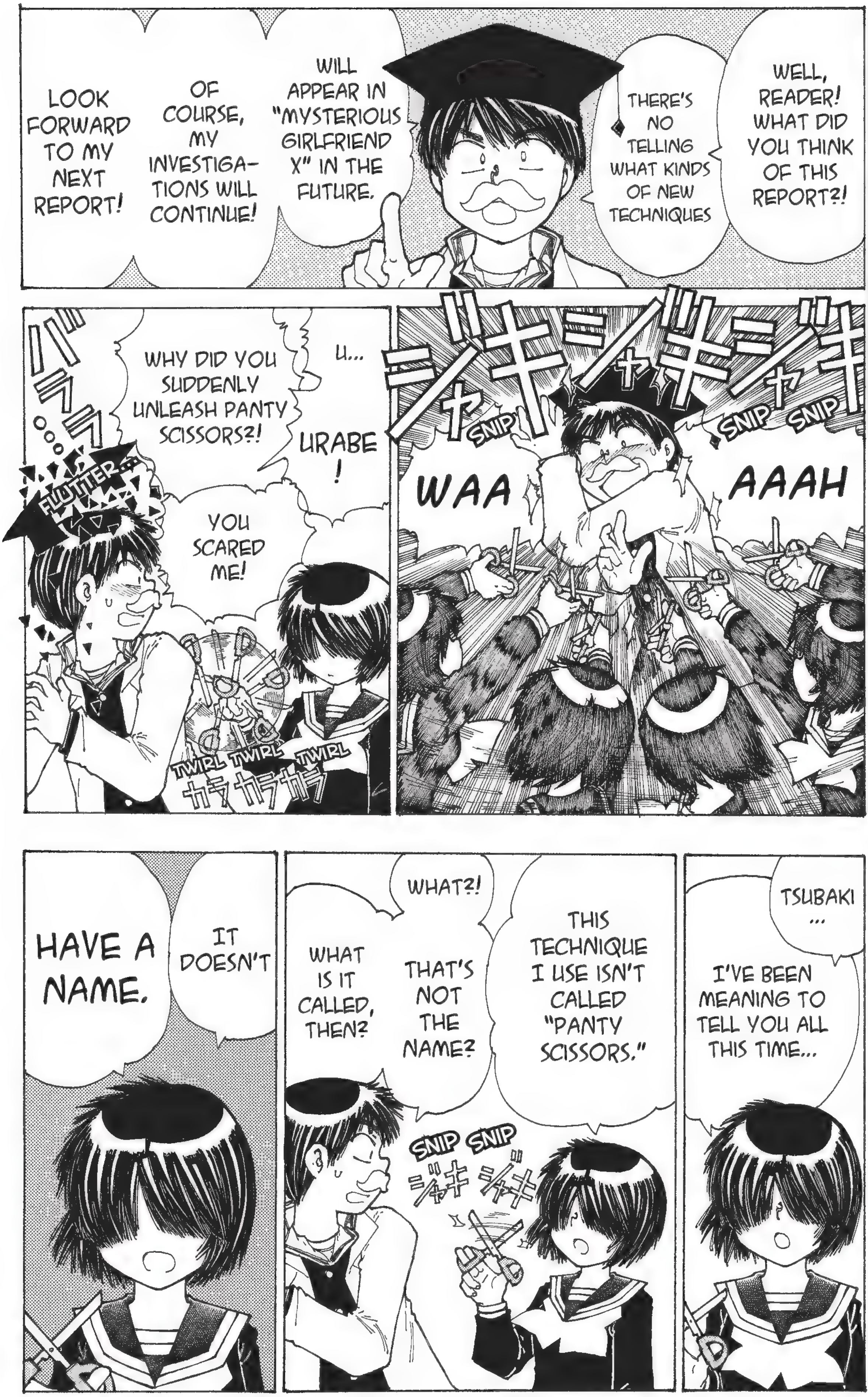
A flood of drool pours from her mouth, causing her partner to panic. In the strongest class of Urabe's special techniques.


WHENEVER
SOMETHING MAKES ME REALLY HAPPY,
A FLOOD OF DROOL SPILLS OUT OF MY MOUTH...
WHAT?!
WH...
WHY?!

CH. 0

In chapter 0, she used this technique after being asked out.

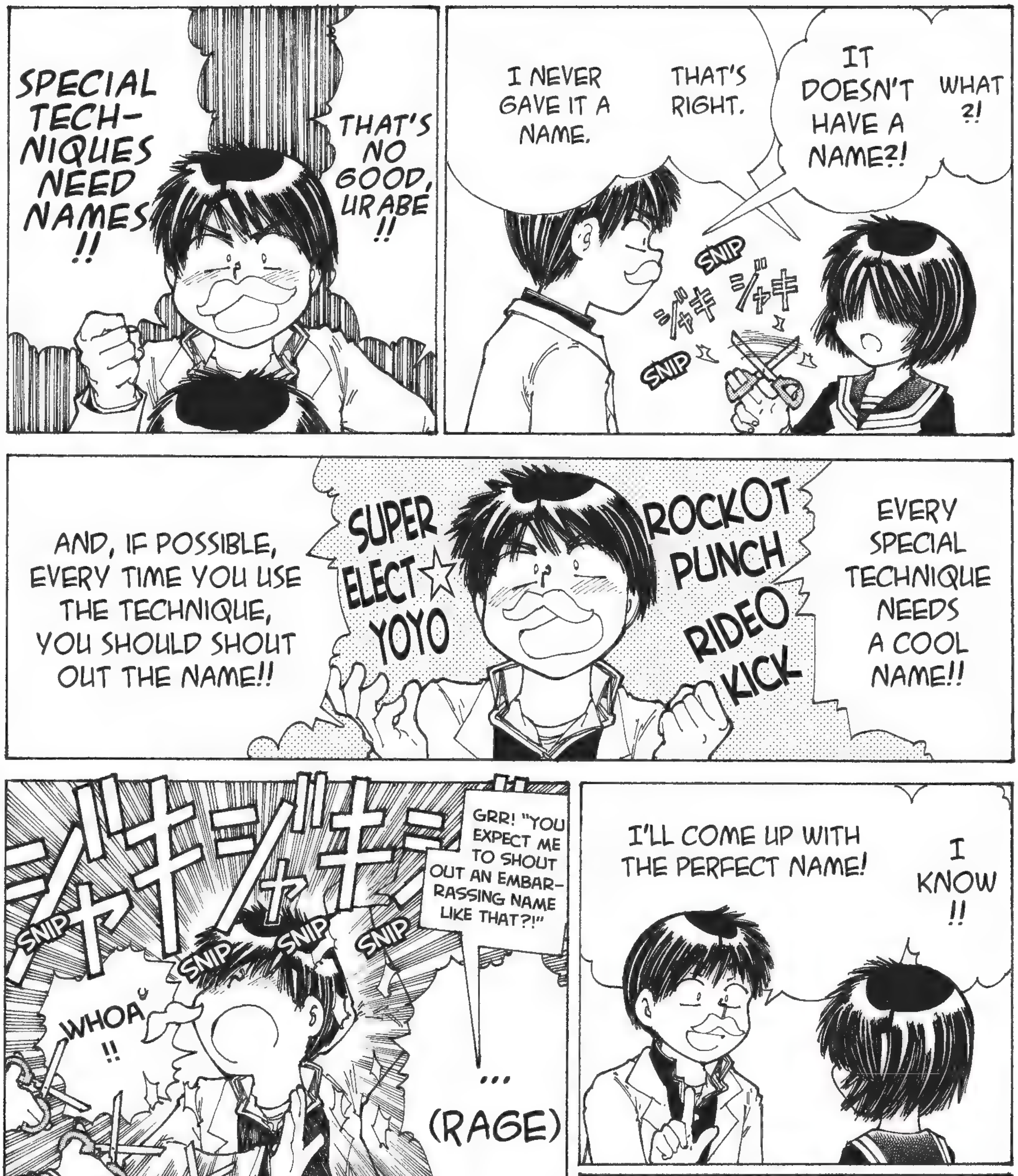
Of course, her partner panics!


WELL, READER! WHAT DID YOU THINK OF THIS REPORT?!
THERE'S NO TELLING WHAT KINDS OF NEW TECHNIQUES
WILL APPEAR IN "MYSTERIOUS GIRLFRIEND X" IN THE FUTURE.
OF COURSE, MY INVESTIGATIONS WILL CONTINUE!
LOOK FORWARD TO MY NEXT REPORT!
ジャキ ジャキ ジャキ
SNIP SNIP SNIP
WAA AAAH
U... URABE!
WHY DID YOU SUDDENLY UNLEASH PANTY SCISSORS?!
YOU SCARED ME!
バラララ
FLUTTER...
TWIRL TWIRL TWIRL
カラカラカラ
TSUBAKI...
I'VE BEEN MEANING TO TELL YOU ALL THIS TIME...
THIS TECHNIQUE I USE ISN'T CALLED "PANTY SCISSORS."
WHAT?!
THAT'S NOT THE NAME?
WHAT IS IT CALLED, THEN?
SNIP SNIP
ジャキ ジャキ
IT DOESN'T
HAVE A NAME.

The Latest from the Author

Riichi Ueshiba

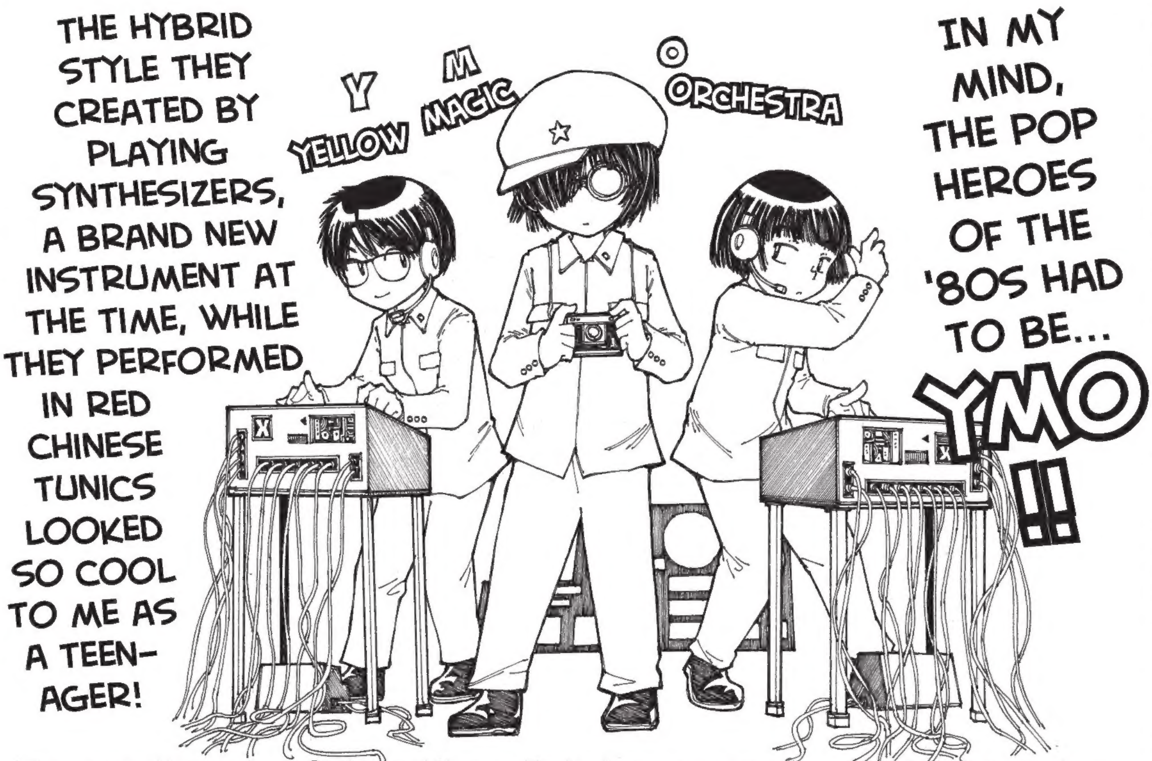
IT'S A BIT LATE, BUT RECENTLY, I'VE GOTTEN INTO THE WORKS OF RYOUTAROU SHIBA. OF COURSE, I LIKE HIS NOVELS, BUT THE THING I'VE READ OVER AND OVER IS "THE COMPLETE LECTURES OF RYOUTAROU SHIBA" (5 VOLUMES, PUBLISHED BY ASAHI BUNKO). IT ILLUSTRATES HOW MR. SHIBA SAW THINGS IN A STRAIGHT-FORWARD LECTURE FORMAT, AND IT'S VERY INTERESTING.


WHAT?!
IT DOESN'T HAVE A NAME?!
THAT'S RIGHT.
I NEVER GAVE IT A NAME.
SNIP
ジャキ
ジャキ
SNIP
THAT'S NO GOOD, URABE!!
SPECIAL TECHNIQUES NEED NAMES!!
EVERY SPECIAL TECHNIQUE NEEDS A COOL NAME!!
ROCKOT PUNCH
RIDEO KICK
SUPER ELECT☆YOYO
AND, IF POSSIBLE, EVERY TIME YOU USE THE TECHNIQUE, YOU SHOULD SHOUT OUT THE NAME!!
I KNOW!!
I'LL COME UP WITH THE PERFECT NAME!
WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THIS?
♒♏◆ ♏♒⊠♐ ❐◆□□
GRR! "YOU EXPECT ME TO SHOUT OUT AN EMBARRASSING NAME LIKE THAT?!"
...
(RAGE)
ジャキ ジャキ
SNIP
SNIP
SNIP
SNIP
WHOA!!

"Take this!! OOOOO" (←—we can't say it)

Dr. Tsubaki's Mysterious Girlfriend X Special Technique Report

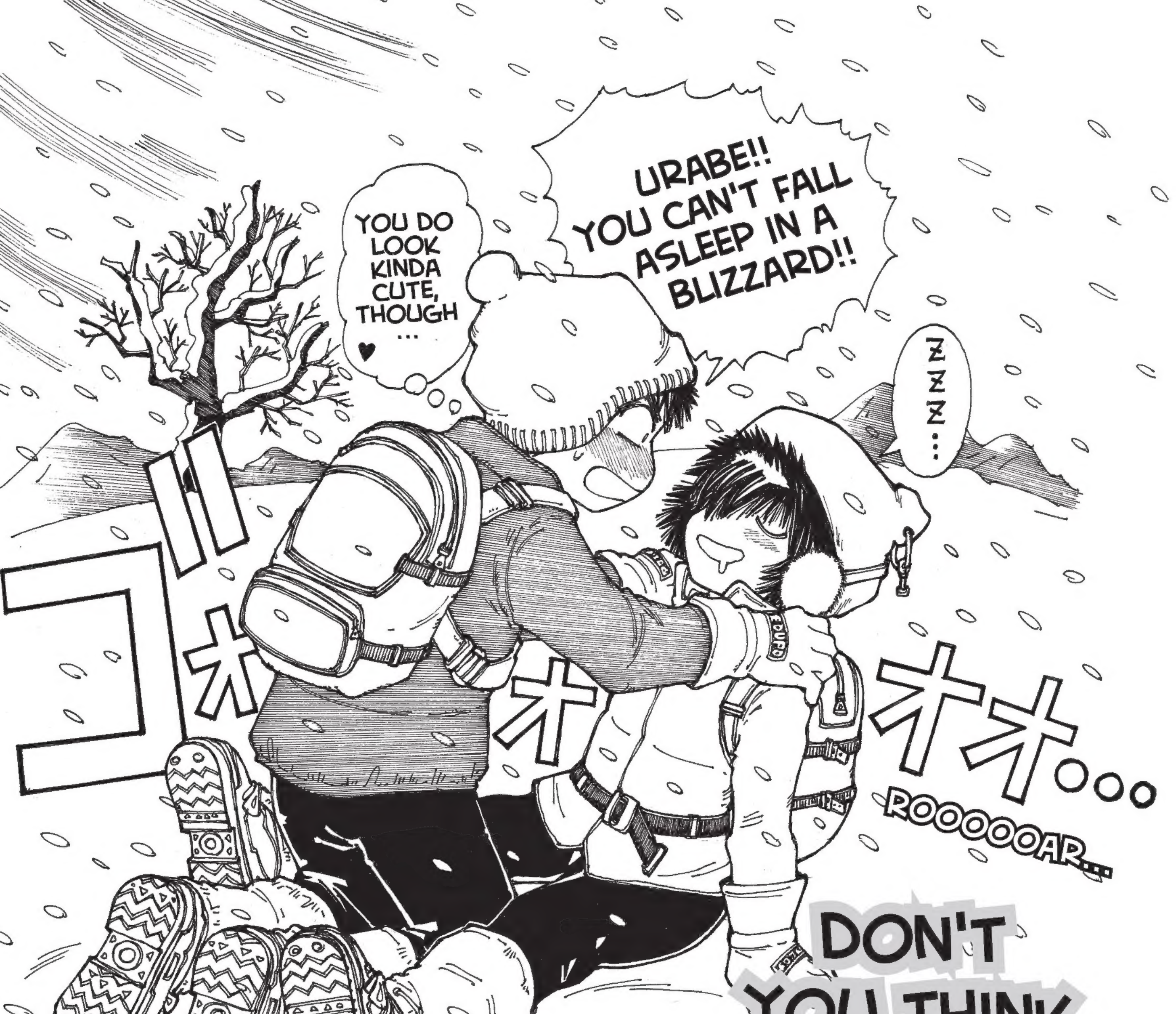
THE END


THE HYBRID STYLE THEY CREATED BY PLAYING SYNTHESIZERS, A BRAND NEW INSTRUMENT AT THE TIME, WHILE THEY PERFORMED IN RED CHINESE TUNICS LOOKED SO COOL TO ME AS A TEEN-AGER!
Y YELLOW
M MAGIC
O ORCHESTRA
IN MY MIND, THE POP HEROES OF THE '80S HAD TO BE... YMO!!

The comic "Mysterious Girlfriend X" most likely does not take place entirely in our modern times. If it did, Tsubaki and Urabe would be using the essential tool of our time, the cell phone, to stay in touch with each other like young people (or maybe almost all people?) do nowadays. But no cell phones actually appear in the comic, so there are no such scenes. One might then think that the setting of the comic is heavily influenced by the 1980's, the decade when I was in my teens, but there are also scenes in which Tsubaki and a sophomore lend each other movies on DVD, so it's not set that far in the past, either. In short, the time frame of "Mysterious Girl X" is quite vague. Since the main characters of "Mysterious Girlfriend X" are high school students, the story fits into the "school" genre. Naturally, in works of the school genre, the things that the author felt, thought, and experienced in high school greatly influence the story. I don't know if the things felt by authors during their high school days always match the things felt by modern high school students. I'm in my late-30's now, so there's already a gap of nearly 20 years between me and current high school students. There are probably many comic artists who try to bridge this gap by researching the media, customs, and items that are currently popular among high school students and using those in their works, but I almost never do that. By the way, I often listen to the radio while I work, and I occasionally hear pop music that's popular these days. But I haven't bought a pop CD in about 15 years, so I don't know any of the song titles or names of the artists they play. As I listen to this music I don't know, I often think that the melodies, rhythms, and lyrics have a different sense from the pop music I listened to all the time as a teenager, but at its very roots, this music isn't so different from the pop music I was once so engrossed in. I think that's because, though many things change with the times, there are certain things, such as the excitement and thrill a boy feels when a cute new transfer student is seated next to him, that don't change much no matter what age he lives in. When I think about that, it stops me from researching current trends, and makes me feel like it doesn't matter whether the story takes place in the current day or a little further in the past. As the author, I hope that adult readers who have already graduated from high school will find "Mysterious Girlfriend X" a bit nostalgic, and that readers who are currently in high school or younger will find it different and fresh.

ONE DAY,
NOVEMBER
2008
RIICHI
UESHIBA

BAD CAT


ZZZ...
URABE!! YOU CAN'T FALL ASLEEP IN A BLIZZARD!!
YOU DO LOOK KINDA CUTE, THOUGH ♥ ...
ゴォオオオ...
ROOOOOOAR...

DON'T YOU THINK A GIRL WHO DROOLS WHEN SHE FALLS ASLEEP IS CUTE? WELL, THIS IS A COMIC ABOUT THAT SORT OF GIRL.

LOOK FORWARD TO VOLUME 3!!

Mysterious Girlfriend X 2

KODANSHA COMICS Digital Edition

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Translation: Rebecca Cottrill
Production: Risa Cho
Anthony Quintessenza